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**NON-CIRCULATING**







Y20-137

# AN ACCOUNT

OF THE

# Descendants of Thomas Orton

OF

WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT, 1641

(PRINCIPALLY IN THE MALE LINE)

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BY

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AND

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# The Orton Family in America

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## CHAPTER I.

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### Introductory.

The surname ORTON is neither a common nor an unusual one. It is a name that could be heard without surprise in any community of English descent. It occurs in the directories of many cities of the country and can probably be found in most of the Northern towns of the United States that have a population of 100,000 or more; but the list of Ortons is generally confined to a few individuals, and in many instances there is but a single family.

It is found at the present time in at least twenty-six States of the Union, and probably in twenty-seven or twenty-eight. It also occurs in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec in Canada. Postoffices are named for the family in at least six States of North America.

The name seems to hold about the same character as to distribution in England that it has in the United States, as will presently be shown. One is not surprised to meet it anywhere, but it is scarcely common in any city or district,

so far as I have learned. It can be found in the directories of many of the large English towns, as London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester, Coventry, etc.

A German work on the derivation of English surnames makes it of Danish origin, and gives its meaning as "a round, steep hill." Orton is certainly found as a surname in Norway at the present time, and has recently been brought to the United States as a fresh importation from that country by at least one family. Ortonville, Minn., was named for C. K. Orton, who was born in Bergen, Norway.

The English name can easily be accounted for as a contraction of the name "Overton," and in one family list I find it spelled "Ouerton." It is also pronounced "Ore-ton" by some English families. If the name had been contracted from Overton, its signification and history would be obvious, *viz.*, that of a family residing on a hill, overlooking a town. It would be analogous to many other English surnames, as, Easton, Weston, Norton (Northtown), Hilton, Seaton, Colton, Milton, Clifton, Fenton, Vinton, Townsend, Underwood, Greenwood, Blackwood, Churchill, Whitehill, Whitehurst, Broadbeck, Clifford, Horsford, Blackford, Woodbridge, etc. The name has certainly been established in England for a number of centuries. It is found in several minor geographical designations that have presumably come down from early time. If, as asserted by the German author already quoted, it is of Danish origin, it probably goes back to the Teutonic invasions of the fifth or the ninth century. The etymology suggested above is, however, so plausible that I am inclined to accept it. In other words, I am disposed to consider the name a contraction from Overton.

Of the Ortons in the United States at the present time, a very large proportion, probably not less than nineteen-

twentieths, are the descendants of Thomas Orton, who is recorded as a resident of Windsor, Conn., in 1641. It is a provisional and imperfect account of his descendants that I herewith undertake. For fifteen or twenty years I have been accumulating facts pertaining to this subject, but my work has been confined to the spare hours of a laborious profession and a busy life, and has been carried on principally by correspondence, which is far inferior to personal interview, both as to the range and accuracy of the statements secured. I have, however, brought together a large number of facts, which, in view of the uncertainty of life, I have decided to publish, so as to put them beyond the danger of loss. Inadequate as the record will be, it will at least form a basis for further work in this direction by those who will inherit the name in the years to come.

My work has been greatly aided during the last few years by the zealous co-operation of Dr. John Jackson Orton, of Lakeville, Conn. He has added much to the lists that I had previously made out, and may well deserve to be counted joint compiler with me of many of the tables and lists that follow. I am also under obligations to many members of the family for such facts as they had in their possession. In this connection, I must especially name Judge Hobert S. Orton, of Princeton, Mo.; Judge Philo A. Orton, of Darlington, Wis.; Charles L. Orton, A. B., of North Wallden, Vt.; Miss Mary Orton Martin, of Woodbury, Conn.; Mrs. Frances A. Miller, of Spring City, Tenn.; and Miss Esther M. Orton, of Geneva, Ill. I am glad to acknowledge my special indebtedness to Cothren's History of Ancient Woodbury. The three pages of his work devoted to the Orton family have proved invaluable to me.

I take pleasure in naming, also, Hon. Philo A. Orton, of Wisconsin; James Douglas Orton, of New Jersey, and Dr.

John G. Orton, of New York, who, by their guarantees of substantial aid, have made it safe for me to publish the record which I have compiled.

As is usual in such inquiries, however, there are many members of the family that find little or no interest in the investigation, and fail to furnish the facts as to their immediate ancestry, even after repeated solicitation. Many lines will be found imperfect from this cause, especially in the last two or three generations.

The question is often asked as to the object in thus tracing the family history, and when it is learned that the inquiry has no reference whatever to any unclaimed fortune in England, or elsewhere, some lose all interest in it forthwith. There are others who would be glad to learn that they belong to a family that has made itself conspicuous by honorable public service, by professional eminence, or by the accumulation of unusual wealth in this or the old world, but who see no sufficient reason for laboriously tracing an uneventful and commonplace history. There are some, and let us hope many others, who find an interest in learning the facts of their origin, whatever they may be, in following the fortunes of the successive generations to which they owe their own existence, and while they would be glad to note any proofs of distinction in their predecessors, are still content if they find but little to mortify an honorable pride. Some one has remarked that one of the first proofs that we are growing old is to be found in the reversion of our thoughts to the lives of our ancestors. It is probable, therefore, that this interest will be developed as the years go by in some who find at present no attraction in these facts and feel but little respect for them.

In reality, the descendants of Thomas Orton constitute one of the oldest families of the country. We have an

unbroken record of more than two hundred and fifty years on this side of the Atlantic, and best of all, the vigor of the stock seems unimpaired. The family, as a whole, shows as much activity and promise to-day as it has at any time in the entire period through which it can be traced. Certainly it shows no signs of being in a decadent state.

I do not find any clear proofs of commanding or distinctive qualities of any sort in the Orton line; but it seems to have furnished a good basis on which to build a fair average of New England or American character. Occasionally it has been happily blended with the blood of other families and men of eminence have, as a result, risen above the rank and file of their day, but the great majority of the generations that have passed away have led unambitious lives, in peaceful country homes, "far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife." Every Orton of to-day has at least five generations of New England farmers behind him.

## CHAPTER II.

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### SECTION I.

#### THE SETTLEMENT OF THE ORTONS IN NEW ENGLAND.

##### THOMAS ORTON OF WINDSOR, CONN.

The earliest settlement of the Connecticut Valley, or more particularly of the towns of Hartford, Windsor, and Wethersfield was begun in 1636. There were two routes by which this beautiful region was reached from Boston; one of them, overland, through the wilderness, and the other by the sea, the sound, and the Connecticut River. The overland journey of less than a hundred and fifty miles occupied two weeks or more. The most important party of colonists accomplished it in seventeen days. The duration of the journey by water was, of course, uncertain.

In just what year Thomas Orton reached Windsor, we have no means of learning. One record makes 1636 the date of his settlement there, but the church records of the town show that he was married there June 16, 1641, to Margaret Pratt. The name as written in the records seems to read Pall or Paul, but inasmuch as the latter names are otherwise unknown in Windsor, while a Pratt family is found there, the probabilities point to the latter name. I judge that it is from the same source that we learn that he was born in England in 1613. Both he and his wife "joined

the church" at Windsor, and his name occurs in various township transactions of that time. He served repeatedly on juries, grand and petit, at Hartford, as the court records show.

It appears that there was another Thomas Orton, in Charlestown, Mass., in 1642, and by some of the authors who have treated on these times he has been confounded with Thomas Orton of Windsor; but they were certainly different persons.

Thomas Orton of Charlestown was a ship carpenter. He married Mary Eddy, and had four sons and two daughters. Their names are as follows: William, Samuel, Ebenezer, Thomas, Amy, and Mary. Of this family I do not find a solitary trace in subsequent New England history. It would seem that, unless they returned to England, they must have passed on to one of the Middle States then inviting immigration, as Delaware, Maryland, or Virginia. A family of Ortons, not descended from Thomas Orton of Windsor, has been established for a number of generations in Virginia, in which the name "Thomas" is of frequent occurrence. It is to be remarked, however, that the name of the family of Thomas Orton of Charlestown was sometimes written "Horton."

Thomas Orton of Windsor remained in this town fourteen years after his marriage. Four children were born to him here, one son and three daughters. A fourth daughter was born after he left Windsor. The names of the children are given below:

John, 1648.

Mary, 1650.

Sarah, 1652.

Hannah, 1656.

He owned a lot of eight and one-half acres. Part of it seems to have been allotted to him by the town after a previous allotment to one Lawrence Ellison, who forfeited it by failure to occupy. Another part he purchased of the widow of Goodman Whitehouse. The particular section of the town in which his lot lay was occupied by some of the best families of the town, as the Wolcotts, the Phelpses, the Loomises, etc. Thomas Orton built a house on the east end of his home lot, on a gravel terrace overlooking the alluvial plain of the Connecticut Valley. In addition to this home lot he owned several considerable bodies of land in Windsor, retaining the ownership of some of them as long as he lived.

In Stiles's History of Windsor, Second Edition, 1894, a map of the town center at this early time is found, on which the locations of many of the earliest residents are indicated. Among others, the location of Thomas Orton's lot and house is given. From the size of his home lot and from the neighborhood in which he established himself, it seems safe to infer that he was "well to do" and that he held a good social status.

He did not, however, become a permanent resident of Windsor. In 1655, he removed to Farmington, which was his home for the remainder of his life and which became a much more important center for the Orton family than Windsor.

Farmington is a beautifully situated town, fifteen miles west and south of Windsor and ten miles west of Hartford. It lies in the valley of the river of the same name, which is separated from the Connecticut Valley, with which it agrees in having a north and south direction, by a bold range of trap-hills known as Talcott Mountain. A low gap in this range furnishes a natural roadway from

Hartford westward, and by this road the early settlers of Farmington and of the towns beyond came in.

Talcott Mountain, which rises in a steep and almost vertical wall from the valley of the Farmington River to an elevation of seven hundred to nine hundred feet above the sea, makes the eastern boundary of the town. A beautiful and for the most part fertile valley, six or eight miles wide, stretches away to the westward, having for a boundary in this direction another range of trap-hills, but lower and less regular than Talcott Mountain.

The town center of Farmington was laid out on the lower slopes of the mountain, but was elevated above the valley enough to command a delightful view to the westward. The main street runs north and south, parallel to the mountain and river.

Thomas Orton was one of the eighty-four original owners and settlers of Farmington. He owned two houses at the center, one located nearly opposite the present bank and the other a short distance east of the hotel, just at the bend of the Hartford road. He also owned many tracts of land in the valley and on the mountain side and also in the northern part of the town, which was then called Nod or Little Nod, but which now constitutes the town of Avon. He was one of the wealthiest of the original proprietors. In 1672, a list of the estates of the town was agreed upon by which the valley lands, at first held in common, should be divided. The division seems to have been based on the property that each of the original proprietors was already possessed of. Thomas Orton comes eighth in this list. The minister, Mr. Samuel Hooker, was allowed a double rating and two non-residents, of the capitalist class of their day, Haynes and Willis, came in at the head of the list; but of the actual residents of the town, only four were set at a

higher figure than Thomas Orton, and two of these four were rated so close to him that their returns were practically identical with his.

In like manner, a division of the common lands on the east side of the river in Nod (Avon) was made in 1720 and the rating of Thomas Orton's estate held about the same relative position as in the case above described.

Among his neighbors, we find many familiar names, such as Wadsworth, Hawley, Porter, Gridley, Andrus, North, Scovel, Newel, Stanley, Sherman, Norton, Woodford, etc., etc.

The good standing which he held in Farmington is further attested by the fact that in 1684 he was elected deputy to the General Court (Legislature) of the Colony of Connecticut for the session that began on October 9 of the year above named. His colleague from Farmington was Captain William Lewis. (Trumbull's Colonial Records of Connecticut, Vol. III., page 155.)

His children grew up in Farmington, the oldest of them being only seven or eight years old when he left Windsor. All of them married and settled in Farmington. Mary married John Root; Sarah married Jedediah Dewey, by whom she had three daughters and four sons, and Elizabeth married Samuel, son of Robert Lewis. Thomas Orton's only son, John, married a Hawley for his first wife, as I infer on rather slender grounds.

Thomas Orton lived to a good age, but the date of his death I have not been able to find. We know that it occurred after May 7, 1688, from the following circumstances. From 1685 to 1689, the tyrannical governor, Sir Edmond Andros, was in power in New England. Among his oppressive acts was one requiring that all wills made in New England should be probated in Boston, where ex-

cessive fees were demanded, in addition to the costs of the journey. To avoid this extortionate rule, Thomas Orton disposed of his estate during his lifetime by a "deede of gifte" to his children. This deed is to be found in the town records of Farmington. It is dated May 7, 1688, and was signed in presence of and witnessed by the minister of the town, Mr. Samuel Hooker, and also by Captain John Stanley. It is couched, in part, in the following terms:

"These may certify all concerned that I, Thomas Orton of Farmington, in the County of Connecticut, in New England, for and in consideration of my natural love and indexed affection to my children and my children's children, hereinafter named, and for other good causes, me hereunto moving, have granted and given to them and do hereby give and grant unto them in the manner following:

"(1) I give and bequeath unto my beloved son, John, my home lot lying and being in the town of Farmington, abutting west on John Norton's land, east partly on the highway and partly on John Woodruff" (etc.), "with all the housing, orchards, and privileges, appurtenances, and profits thereunto belonging;" (2) a tract in the third meadow (thirty acres); (3) a tract in Nod (Avon), fourteen acres, etc., etc.; (4) a tract of pasture land; (5) a small parcel in the great meadow, "from and after the end of my natural life."

"To my beloved daughter, Elizabeth Lewis, the use and improvement of all my land lying in a neck of Farmington meadow, called More's Corner, during her natural life and then these parcels of land to turn to my grandson, Thomas.

"To my grandson, Thomas Orton, (1) a parcel of land lying to the east side of the great river in Windsor, which I bought of John Gailer (Gaylord), seventy-five acres (2) twenty acres, more or less, lying in the same town.

"To Margaret, daughter of my son, John, £10 in money.

"To the three daughters of my daughter, Sarah Dewey, now living, I give £5 apiece in money; to the four sons of my daughter, Sarah Dewey, I give my land in the great swamp, as also my division of the upland in Farmington which lieth against Wethersfield bounds, to be divided in equal proportions; the remainder of uplands I give to my son, John." To him, also, was assigned the care of his funeral expenses and also the gathering and paying of all his just debts. For these services he further orders £5 to be allowed to him.

"The rest of my estate I give and bequeath to my three daughters, Mary Root, Sarah Dewey, and Elizabeth Lewis, to be divided among them in equal proportions."

The last paragraph contains the only mention in this document of the oldest daughter, Mary Root. We may infer that she had already received property from her father and that she had no children. The value of the estate thus disposed of was placed at £496.

When this deed of gift was made, Thomas Orton was already seventy-five years old. I infer that it was signed in his last days and probably in his last hours, for another daughter was born to John Orton in that same month (baptized May 20, 1688), of whom no mention is made in this document.

As to the English home of Thomas Orton or the social status which he held in the old country, we have no positive knowledge and but little safe ground for inference. The name was a thoroughly respectable one in various parts of England, belonging to worthy representatives of the great middle class, who have always constituted the strength and glory of the nation. Burke, in his standard work on English Heraldry, Third Edition, 1849, enumerates seven families of Ortons, included in the gentry, each having a coat

of arms of its own. But of these seven there are three, and possibly four, that are plainly separate and distinct from one another. The three remaining are as obviously more or less closely connected with or derived from one of the three or four first named.

The different Orton arms are thus described in the language of heraldry:

1. "Vert, a lion rampant, argent, crowned, and armed, gules." (Cumberland.)
2. "Azure, a lion rampant, or,"
3. "Azure, a lion rampant, argent."
4. "Azure, a leopard, rampant, argent, crowned, or,"
5. "Argent, a band sable between a rose in chief and a fleur de lis in base, gules." (Leicester.)
6. Same arms as 5, with the addition of a crest as follows: "Tower proper, cupola, and flag, gules." (Leicester.)
7. "Or, a squirrel, sejant, gules, cracking a nut." (Kent.)

The first of these emblems belonged to a family in Cumberland, in the northwest corner of England. The sole heiress married many years ago, and the estate has passed out of the Orton name altogether. But in the adjacent county of Westmoreland, eight miles southwest of Appleby, an important village still bears the name Orton, which it seems reasonable to refer to this family. Orton Hall, Orton Common, and Orton Scar are situated in adjacent territory. All these names can be found on any good map of England.

The seventh emblem belongs to a family in Kent, in the extreme southeastern corner of England. The fifth coat of arms belongs to the Ortons of Leicestershire. The sixth emblem, which is in reality the most elaborate and

complete of the series, evidently belonged to a branch of the same family. There is a large estate in this county that has been in the hands of the Orton family for centuries. Some of its members have held positions in the Church. Several localities still retain the family name, as Orton on the Hill, Cole (Coal) Orton, etc. The first-named village is situated on the extreme western border of Leicestershire. Its name in ancient times is said to have been Worton Overton, and it is further remarked that the name is derived from the high situation of the village which commands an extensive prospect over many of the adjacent villages and towns of Leicestershire, Warwick, and Derbyshire. Cole Orton, anciently written Overton, is a large parish, distinguished for its collieries and from which it has derived its corrupted prefix (Cole—Coal). It consists of two townships, called respectively Overton and Nethertown. The former is also known as Cole Orton Saucy; the latter is sometimes designated Overtown - Quartermarsh. Cole Orton is a rectory at the present time. It is laid down on all good maps of Leicestershire.

The name Orton is also found in the records of another ancient village, which is adjacent to Orton on the Hill, viz., Twycross, the records of which go back to feudal times. In the list of six or eight freeholders of Twycross in 1630, the name of Michael Orton appears; and in 1719, the name of Thomas Orton appears in a similar list.

At Reresby, an old village seven miles north of Leicester and ten miles south of Loughborough, there is an ancient church which has an interesting history in connection with the Orton family. The church is dedicated to St. Michael, and among the list of rectors appear the names of

John Orton, M. A., 1675-1715.  
Joseph Orton, 1715.  
John Orton, M. A., 1730-1760.  
John Orton, fifth, M. A., 1760-1791.  
Thomas Orton (brother of John), 1799.

Contemporary notices show that Rev. John Orton, 5th, was greatly beloved for his "universal benevolence and extended charities." On flat stones within the communion rails, inscriptions can still be made out in memory of several of the rectors named above and their families.

The facts pertaining to Twycross and Reresby, I have derived from notes taken in England a number of years since, by the late Dr. Samuel H. Orton, of the United States Army. A copy of his notes has been kindly furnished to me by his brother, James Douglas Orton, Esq., of Newark, N. J.

The Orton line of Leicestershire appears to have been the most prolific and persistent of any of which I have found records. At least the name is more frequently met with here than in any other district of England, so far as I can learn. Within the last two years I have come upon four different families of Ortons in the United States and Canada, unconnected with each other so far as I know, the members of which were either themselves born in England or whose fathers were born there; and without exception they come from this central district, and not one of them from more than fifty miles from the Leicestershire center of Cole Orton, Orton on the Hill, and Twycross.

It has thus been shown that families of Ortons of good standing were found in the northwestern, the southeastern, and the central districts of England, and perhaps in many other quarters as well. Whether Thomas Orton was derived from any one of the seven prominent families, the existence of which is certified to by armorial bearings, we

do not know. Probably every county of the kingdom made some contribution to the Puritan exodus from England to the New World, which took place between 1620 and 1640; but the greater number of colonists came from the eastern counties. A considerable body, we know, came from Kent, just about the date that Thomas Orton reached America. Leicestershire, also, under the patronage of one of its most noble families, sent out about this time many emigrants to America. But, as I have said, all is guess work here, and there seems but little to encourage the hope that the exact town or family from which Thomas Orton of Windsor was derived will ever be settled. Our only hope would seem to be in intelligent inquiry conducted in England, of the kind quoted on a preceding page, but more extended and minute. It is certain, however, that he was "well to do" from the first, that he brought means with him from England, by which he was ranked among the wealthier members of the new communities.

Several members of the family in this country have adopted the Leicestershire emblem as the "Orton coat of arms;" but, as I have already shown, there are seven Orton arms, and the selection of any one to represent the family of Thomas Orton is, of course, purely arbitrary. I am willing to concede, however, that the probabilities rather favor Leicestershire as our ancestral home.

The best that can be said with absolute certainty about Thomas Orton, is that he was one of the twenty-six thousand English Puritans that came to this country between 1620 and 1640, and that he was one of the pioneer settlers of Connecticut. If we give due weight to these unquestionable facts, we shall find in them as good a warrant for respect and honor as English titles and armorial ensigns could possibly give. One of the early preachers of New

England declared that God had sifted and winnowed a whole kingdom that he might send choice seed into the wilderness. Thomas Orton was one of the grains of choice wheat with which New England was planted. Certainly, no State was ever founded by colonization in which a nobler class of motives bore sway than in the foundation of New England. These colonists were not actuated by a love of gain or glory, but they came to set up in the wilderness an ideal State, in which God's will, as they understood it, should be done; and to accomplish this purpose they were ready to endure toil and hardship without end. We have the best of right to predicate of our common ancestor, Thomas Orton, moral enthusiasm, steadfast courage, and a readiness to sacrifice the lower ends of life for the higher.

The genuine respectability of the family in this country is attested by the intermarriages of the Ortons for a number of generations with some of the best families of New England, such as the Buckinghams, the Tudors, the Sedgwicks, the Loomises, the Smedleys, the Jacksons, the Bidwells, the Woodruffs, the Pardees, the Clevelands, etc., etc.

## SECTION II.

### JOHN ORTON OF FARMINGTON — 1647-1694.

John Orton was the only son of Thomas Orton. He was born in Windsor, as already stated, but when he was eight years old his father removed to Farmington. The title "captain" is given him in one family list that I have seen, but I have found no hint of such a title in the Farmington records, where, if it had really been held, it would be almost certain to appear. Lieutenant, sergeant, ensign, all are found in use. The higher title would not have been dis-

regarded. I do not, therefore, feel warranted in adopting it. As John Orton passed all his active life in Farmington and died there, he will be designated in these pages as John of Farmington. As I have shown in the preceding section, he inherited a considerable estate from his father and must have held a fairly prominent place in the new community. We know but little of him, however. An important gap occurs in his history at the very start. We do not know the name of his first wife, the date of his marriage, or the exact dates of the births of his two older children, Thomas and Margaret.

Somewhere in the years 1686-7, he married a second wife, whose name is given to us as Anna or Hannah, daughter of Samuel Orris. But inasmuch as the name Orris does not occur in the Farmington records, while another name that could very easily be confounded with it (*viz.*, Orvis) was common there, I venture to suggest a correction. I think John Orton married Hannah, daughter of George Orvis, for his second wife. Hannah Orvis was born in 1655. The Orvis family was a fairly prominent one in Farmington for several generations. The Orris family is reported from Charlestown, Mass., in the early days, and not from Connecticut. George Orvis of Farmington had a daughter, Hannah, born in 1655, who is not otherwise accounted for. It seems to have been hitherto accepted by all who have given attention to the family history that Hannah Orvis was John's first wife and the mother of all his children, but this cannot have been the case. In the records of the Farmington church, a list is given of "persons in full communion in the church" for the years 1677 to 1685. In this list the names of "Thomas Orton and wife" and of "John Orton's wife" are found. A subsequent rec-

ord shows that "John Orton's wife" "joined the church" in 1690. The wives thus named could not be the same.

Again, the four younger of his six children, beginning with Mary, 1688, are found in close succession, viz., 1688, 1690, 1692, and 1694; while Thomas, the oldest son, was probably born as early as 1675 to 1677, as we conclude from the fact that he was married in 1698. His sister, Margaret, was married in 1699.

Again, in the subsequent distribution of John Orton's estate, the three younger children, Mary (1690), John (1692), and Samuel (1694), are counted together, while Thomas and Margaret do not share equally with them in all respects, they having been at least partly provided for by their grandfather, Thomas, who named them expressly in the distribution of his estate by deed of gift of 1688.

I read the history, therefore, about on this wise. John Orton, born in 1647, reached the age at which the young men of the colonies usually married, viz., twenty-one to twenty-six years, about 1670. He married his first wife about this date. She bore him two children, Thomas and Margaret, and died about 1685-6, her name appearing in the church records of 1685. In the course of the next year, that is, in 1686-7, he married Hannah Orvis, his second wife, and she bore him four children in the quick succession already named, dying herself in 1694, at the birth of her fourth child, Samuel.

As to who the first wife was, I have no knowledge, but I infer that she was a Hawley, or a connection of the Hawley family from the fact that Lieutenant Joseph Hawley of Farmington, in an exchange of property with John Orton's son, Thomas, about 1710, includes in the "consideration" which he acknowledges, "the love, good-will, and affection which I bear to my friend and kinsman" (Thomas Orton).

But whatever the surname of the second wife, it is certain that she made a very important contribution to the Orton family in this country in the two sons that she bore to her husband. The names and dates of birth (baptism) of her four children are as follows:

Mary, baptized May 20, 1688. Died in infancy.  
Mary, baptized February 16, 1690. Died in 1710.  
John, baptized December 4, 1692.  
Samuel, baptized November 11, 1694.

Mrs. Hannah Orton died at the birth of her son, Samuel, in November, 1694. In the succeeding year, 1695, John married a third wife, Mary, daughter of Owen Tudor of Windsor, and before the year closed he himself died. He was but forty-eight years old at the time of his death. He had but recently come into the possession of his property. A list of lands held by him appears in the town records, dated January 26, 1691. Five separate tracts, or parcels, are enumerated, including the home lot with its dwelling house and farm buildings "which his father did give him by deed of gift, May 7, 1688."

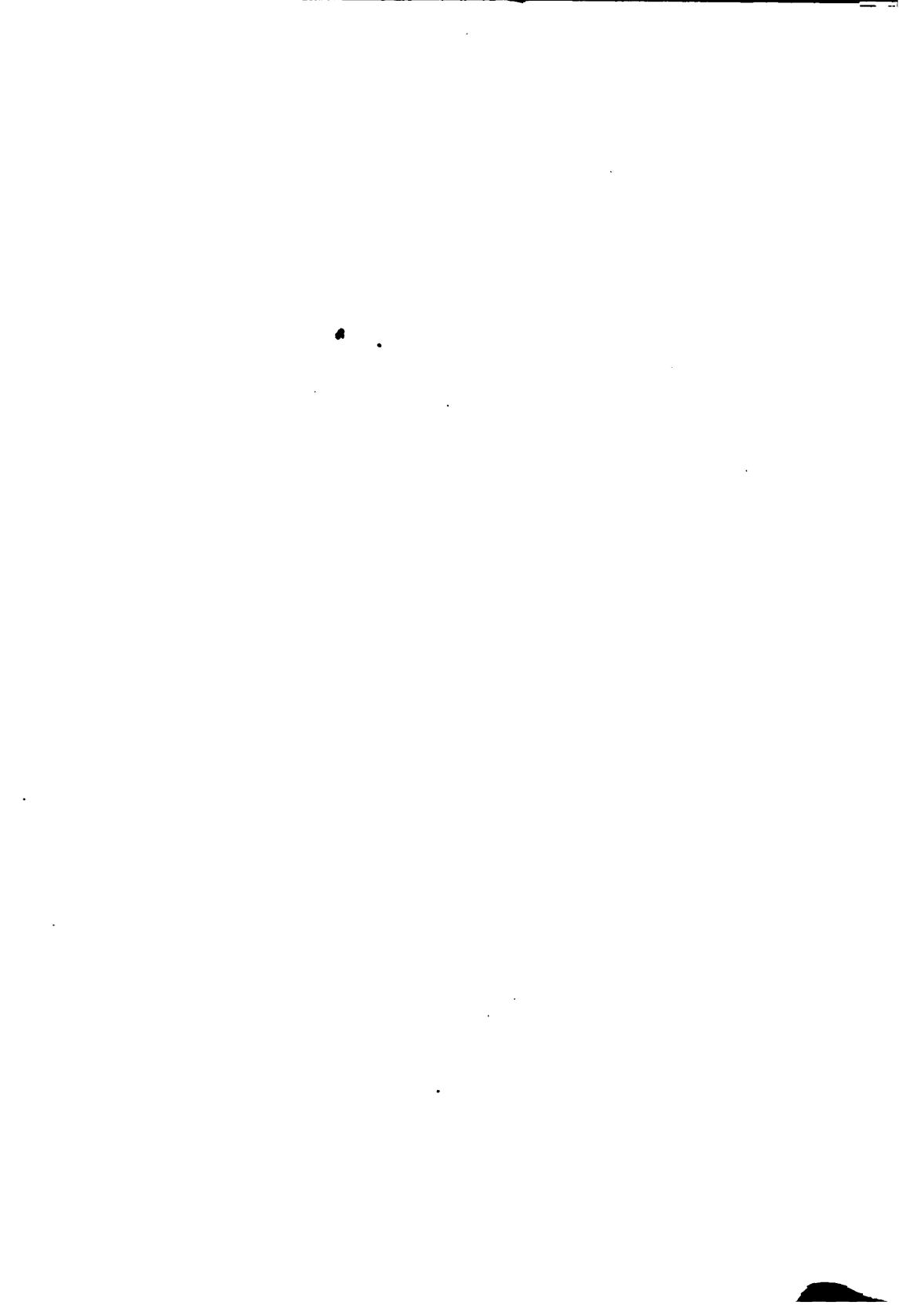
His death must be counted untimely from every point of view. He was in the prime of life, he was happily married, he had five children that needed his care and he had but lately come to the consideration which the possession of a large property, then as now, would bring with it. He was ill for some time, as we incidentally learn, and looked forward to a possibly fatal result. Our information comes in this way. During his sickness, he called in a neighbor to whom he expressed the wish that the property which his newly wedded wife, Mary Tudor, had brought with her from her father should be turned back to her in case that he died. After his death this neighbor went

before the Probate Court and testified to the conversation and action was taken in accordance therewith. He left no will and his property was divided by order of the Court, April 8, 1696. His widow held her rights in the property and certain rooms of the house and certain parts of the farm buildings were set aside to her, while others were assigned to the several minor heirs. The older children, Thomas and Margaret, had no inheritance in these home buildings, from which I conclude that they were not members of their father's household at this time. His widow, Mary Tudor Orton, seems to have been an attractive woman. Five years after her first husband's death, she was married to John Judson of Woodbury, one of the signers of the original compact by which this town was established. Her father, Owen Tudor, as one record puts it, "in his old age made the childish claim that he was connected with the royal house of England." Whatever the merits of this claim, it is certain that there is no Tudor blood in Orton veins. There was no issue from her marriage to John Orton, but to her second husband she bore several sons and daughters. It does not seem probable that she took the Orton children with her to Woodbury, but John and Samuel both found their way there at a later date.

This brings us to the third generation of Ortons in New England. I append a table showing the principal facts in the history thus far reviewed.

# Table I.

I.	THOMAS ORTON, 1612-1688?
II.	M. Margaret Pratt in 1641.
II.	John, 1647-1694.
II.	M. Mary, 1660.
II.	M. —John Root.
II.	2d. Anna Orvis.
II.	3d. Mary Tudor.
	THOMAS, 1652-1711.
	M. —Jedediah Dewey.
	Sarah, 1654.
	M. —Samuel Lewis.
	Elizabeth, 1654.
	M. —Samuel Lewis.
	James, 1682
	Mary, 1688
	Joseph, 1684
	Thomas, 1682
	Daniel, 1677
	Margaret, 1674
	Barth, 1672
	Abigail, 1664
	James, 1682
	Mary, 1688
	Joseph, 1684
	Thomas, 1682
	Barth, 1672
	Mary, 1688
	Joseph, 1684
	Thomas, 1682
	Margaret, 1684
	Barth, 1672
	Mary, 1688
	Joseph, 1684
	Thomas, 1682
	Mary, 1688
	John, 1692
	Mary, 1690-1710
	Samuel, 1694



## SECTION III.

**THIRD GENERATION—THOMAS (1677?), JOHN (1692),  
SAMUEL (1694).**

Thomas, the oldest son of John of Farmington was born, as I have elsewhere shown, probably, between the years 1675 and 1678. At any rate his own eldest child was born in 1699. Counting him twenty-two years old at the time of this event, and he would scarcely be less, his natal year was 1677. He had one full sister, Margaret. She married John Thompson, Jr., on November 2, 1699, and lived all her life in Farmington.

Fortune was kind to Thomas from the beginning. While still a youth he was made rich by the bequests of his grandfather. He thus became the owner of two large tracts in East Windsor and of other lands in Farmington. In his early manhood he is shown by the Farmington records to have purchased tracts of land from several parties. Later, he inherited from his father's estate and he also bought the house and land rights of his brothers and sisters of the half blood, apparently reuniting the original allotments and purchases of his grandfather. In 1720, as the representative of his grandfather, who was one of the eighty-four original proprietors of the town, he received a large allotment of valuable land that had been held in common up to this time. Not more than eight or nine of the original proprietors received a larger allotment than he. This tract of land was in that part of the town that since 1830 has been called Avon, but that was, in the early times, known as Nod.

As early as 1698, he married Anna Buckingham of Hartford. The Buckingham name is an honored one in Connecticut history. In 1710 he joined the church. The early church records of Farmington show that "Thomas Orton (Sen., of Windsor,) and wife joined the church December 22, 1656. His children, John, Mary, Sarah, and Elizabeth, being under thirteen years of age when their father joined, entered with him." This accounts, in part, for the fact that John Orton's name does not appear with the names of his wives in the list of church members. He was already, in a sense, a member of the church, but not having ratified the acts of his parents, he was not counted, under the stricter rulings that were coming to be enforced in these later years. The younger Thomas, as I have shown, left no open questions in this regard.

To Thomas and Anna Buckingham Orton nine children were born, three sons and six daughters. The names of the children are as follows:

Sarah, baptized February 7, 1699. M. in 1727,  
Jonathan Hurlbut.

Thomas, baptized January 4, 1701. Died 1706.

Anna, baptized February 9, 1703.

Mary, baptized March 7, 1703.

Margaret, baptized July 1, 1707. Died July 3,  
1708.

Thomas, baptized April 30, 1709-1780.

Margaret, baptized March 31, 1712.

Esther, baptized October 11, 1714. Died April 1,  
1738.

John, baptized September 17, 1717-1795.

It is seen that there were two sons in this line to continue the Orton name, viz., Thomas, born 1709, and John, born 1717.

Of Thomas, the eldest son of John, I have now given all the principal facts that I have found on record. Numerous lines of Ortons trace their ancestry to him, probably a full half of all that bear this name in the country, and among them many of the most honored and successful of the entire family. I append at this point a tabular statement of the names of his descendants for the next three generations, principally in the male line. But I will treat of the successive generations more fully on subsequent pages.

#### JOHN OF WOODBURY, 1692-1763.

John, the second son of John of Farmington, by his second wife, Hannah Orvis Orton, was baptized December 4, 1692. He grew up in Farmington and remained there until 1717. On March 4 of that year we find that John and Samuel sold some of the most valuable lands that they had inherited from their father to Timothy and Nathaniel Stanley, respectively, who seem to have bought them in the interest of their half-brother, Thomas, reselling the same to him. For these lands John received £40 and Samuel £43. On November 13 of the same year, John and Samuel sell to Ensign Samuel Newell, Sr., their inheritance in the homestead, including portions of the house assigned to them by the Court of Probate and also three acres of land about the house. Their share in the house consisted in the "south or hall chamber, both garrets, and one-third of the cellar." They received £40 for what they thus parted with. Ensign Newell resells the same to Lieutenant Joseph Hawley, the "friend and kinsman" of Thomas Orton, for whom the purchase was no doubt made.

## Table II.

III.	IV.	V.	VI.
Thomas .. 1678 Farmington, Conn. M. Anna Buck- ingham.	Thomas (Dea.) .. ..... 1709 Tyringham, Mass. M. Elizabeth Sedg- wick, of Farm- ington.	Thomas (M. D.) .. ..... 1734-1780 M. Ann Dix. 2d, Sarah Atwood.	James (Judge), Winfield, N. Y. Thomas (Esquire) 1774-1821 Hamilton, N. Y. Abiram (Judge) .. 1776-1837 Pomfret, N. Y. Philo (Judge) .. 1778-1860 Pomfret, N. Y. Two daughters.
John .. 1717-1795 Tyringham, Mass., Shaftsbury, Vt. M. Abigail Wood- ruff .. 1717-1754 2d, Mary Slaugh- ter.	John .. 1742 Little Falls, N. Y.	David .. 1736 Johnstown, N. Y.	Chauncey. Mrs. Austin.
Amos .. 1768 M. Lovissa Williams	John .. 1746	John .. 1782-1832 Timothy .. 1784-1813 David .. 1790-1851 Amos .. 1792-1847 Elias .. 1794-1850 Roger .. 1799-1861 Thomas .. 1803-1871 Polly .. 1784-1832 Huldah .. 1787-1822 Margaret .. 1801-1867	Samuel .. 1763 Bennington, Vt., Canada. Solomon .. 1764-1862 Luzerne, N. Y.
Oliver .. 1764-1846 M. Dorcas Squire.	Thomas .. 1746	Ichabod (Rev.) .. ..... 1764-1797 Brookfield, N. Y. M. Naomi Hard.	Myron (M. D.) .. 1784-1873 Harlow N. (M. D.) .. 1785-1837 Anna .. 1787-1844 Amarilla .. 1798 John B. (Lawyer) .. 1790-1843 David .. 1791 Clarissa .. 1792 Pamelia .. 1794
Amos .. 1768 M. Lovissa Williams	William .. 1756	Gideon .. 1759 Fairfield, Vt. M. Phoebe Oatman	Mary .. 1791 Aaron .. 1793-1871 Lavinia .. 1795 Sarah .. 1798-1824 Truman .. 1800-1877 Charlotte .. 1803
		Oliver .. 1797-1866 Leman W .. 1799-1870 Elizabeth J .. 1804 William Squire .. 1809-1867 John Benjamin .. 1811-1886	Oliver .. 1797-1866 Leman W .. 1799-1870 Elizabeth J .. 1804 William Squire .. 1809-1867 John Benjamin .. 1811-1886
			Lorenzo .. 1798-1865 Anna- Mrs. Joseph Tucker. Lovisa—Mrs. Calvin Mills. Amos .. 1809-1888 Angeline .. 1811-1866 (Mrs. Phelps.) Sarah J.—Mrs. Irish.



In this last transaction, John and Samuel are described as "of Woodbury." In the annals of the last-named town also, John is recorded as settling in Woodbury in 1717.

He came to his new home full-handed and purchased here some of the most fertile and desirable lands of this beautiful town, a large part of which remain to this day in the possession of his direct descendants who are still living there.

Several years later, John and Samuel sold other tracts in Farmington, and particularly, on November 7, 1721, they sold "for a valuable sum of money" four tracts of land, containing, respectively, one hundred and thirty acres, one hundred and thirty-four acres, one hundred and thirty-two acres, and fourteen acres.

John married not long after coming to Woodbury. The Christian name of his wife was Mary, but this is all that we know. This fact we get from the church records. In the membership lists "Mary, wife of John Orton," is recorded. She outlived her husband by twenty-one years, dying in 1784, while his death occurred in 1763.

To John and Mary, five children were born. They are named herewith:

Sarah, 1725-1749. Married John Mitchell.

John, October 5, 1729-1808.

Elizabeth, November 15, 1734.

Mary, February 23, 1741. M. Nathan Judson.

Samuel, December 8, 1741-1819.

In Table III. I give a list of the descendants of John Orton, principally in the male line, for three succeeding generations. This branch of the family is seen to have been far less prolific than that of Thomas of Farmington.

**SAMUEL OF LITCHFIELD, 1694-1774.**

Captain Samuel was the third and youngest son of John Orton. His mother, Hannah Orvis Orton, died immediately after his birth. It is supposed that he was reared in Farmington. In 1718 he followed his brother John to Woodbury and remained there for two years. Woodbury was at that time the frontier town of the Connecticut settlement on the northwest. A belt of forest, a hundred miles in breadth, stretched practically unbroken from the Connecticut River to the Hudson. But the time had now come for another little section of this primeval forest to be reclaimed from the sole occupation of savages and wild beasts and to be transformed into the homes of civilized men. In 1718 a company was organized in the older towns for the settlement of Bantam, embracing the territory around Bantam Lake; and in 1719 the General Court set off 44,800 acres for such settlement. This tract was divided into sixty shares, each covering considerably more than a square mile, three being reserved for "pious uses," under which head churches and schools were provided for. In the same year, 1719, the name of Litchfield was substituted for Bantam. In addition to the large farm tracts, home lots of fifteen acres or less were assigned near the meeting house for all the settlers. The price of the land in the large tracts was fixed by the Court at one and three-fourth pence ( $1\frac{3}{4}$  d.) per acre.

The name of "Samuel Orton of Woodbury" appears in the list of the fifty-two grantees and original settlers of Litchfield. His farm lay at the southeast of Bantam Lake, and he drew by lot the fourth choice for the smaller, or village, tract. The village lot that he selected lies on the east side of Town Hill Street, near Bantam River. That part of

### Table III.

III.	IV.	V.	VI.
	Sarah ..... 1725-1749 M.—John Mitchell.		
John ... 1692-1763 Woodbury(in 1717) M.—Mary	John ..... 1729-1808 M.—Abigail Leavenworth, 1763; M. 2d, Patience Warner, 1782.	Sarah ..... 1765 M.—Ball, Canada. Mary A ..... 1768 M.—Eli Smith, Orange, Ct. Esther ..... 1771 M.—Hollister Judson.	Mary A ..... 1817 John ..... 1819 Betsey ..... 1824 Sarah J. .... 1826
	Elizabeth ..... 1734	John (M. D.) .... 1774 Samuel (M. D.) .... 1776-1850	James S ..... 1816-1892 Harriet ..... 1818-1854 Frederick C ..... 1823-1890 Henry B ..... 1825-1864 Cornelius I ..... 1827 Walter J ..... 1834-1884
	Samuel (M. D.) .... 1741-1819 M.—Ruth Judson ..... 1749-1828	Elizabeth. Henry (M. D.) .... 1781-1864 David (M. D.) .... 1734-1864 Mary. James (M. D.) .... 1787-1869 Sarah ....	Samuel D. (Lawyer), New Milford. James Douglas ..... 1822 Newark, N. J. Samuel H. (M. D.), 1829-1892 New York.



the village is at present counted far less desirable for residence than the higher lands to the northward. But at the date of the settlement there was some reason that made the low grounds more desirable, as is shown in the fact that the first, second, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh choices were all located in this immediate vicinity. His nearest neighbors were the Winchells, the Goodwins, the Woodruffs, the Sedgwicks, the Gibbses, the Marshes, the Roots, etc., etc.

Out of this grant grew the town and county of Litchfield, which has had so honorable a part in the history of Connecticut and the nation.

Samuel Orton's farm lay about five miles southwest of the meeting house of Litchfield, and is still known as Orton Hill. It belonged in what was then and long afterward known as the South Farms; but fifty or sixty years ago this name was replaced by the name Morris, in honor of James S. Morris, who long maintained an academy of great excellence and reputation at this point.

The location of the original Orton homestead is thought to be marked by a rather indistinct depression surrounded by crumbling walls, in other words by a "cellar hole" on the high ground, in the center of the tract. The place is eleven hundred feet above the sea and commands a wide and attractive view of the surrounding region, but the land is rough and the soil is thin. The granite rocks of the region rise to the surface in many outcrops. To get rid of the rocks as far as possible, the farms were necessarily divided into small fields, surrounded by high stone walls. But even after this extensive use of the rock, there is a surplus that never shrinks. The farm is now mainly used for pasturage and meadow land. It is easy to see that Samuel did not make as wise a selection of a home as his brothers. The quality of the land that he took up was such as to forbid the accu-

mulation of wealth from tilling the soil. The best that it could do was to give a scanty living to those who tilled it.

As soon as the town was established, provision was made against attacks by the Indians, the threat of which was constant in those days. The northwestern boundary of the Litchfield grant, as defined by the General Court, was the "wilderness." The first settlers were accordingly organized into two military companies, one at Litchfield and the other at South Farms. Of the latter, Samuel Orton was elected lieutenant, as the town records show. The title seems to have afterwards grown into the next higher, viz., captain, by which he will be here designated.

Early mention is also made of him in the public records as follows: "Voted to appoint Lieutenant Bird and Samuel Orton to assist the clerk in perusing the Town Rolls, and to conclude what shall be transcribed into the Town Book and what not."

As stated above, Samuel Orton settled on Orton Hill in 1720. The first work, of course, was the clearing away of the forest and the building of a house from the logs. Two or three years seem to have been sufficient for this, and in the fall of 1723 he was able to bring here a wife to share the privations and sacrifices of the new settlement. He married, at that time, Abigail, daughter of Gideon and Sarah Smedley. The Smedleys were a strong and successful family of the Connecticut community and have had an honorable record for many generations. The name of Gideon is continued in the Orton family to this day from the source indicated above. The facts here enumerated seem to show that Samuel Orton held good standing among his pioneer neighbors, and young though he was, he seems to have been counted a man of courage and sound judgment. Seven

children were born to him on Orton Hill. Their names are as follows:

Samuel, October 12, 1724-1810.  
Hezekiah, April 29, 1727.  
Azariah, August 17, 1729-1774.  
Gideon, August 18, 1732.  
Lemuel, March 24, 1735-1787.  
Jemima, November 11, 1740. (Mrs. Archibald McNeil.)  
John, March 4, 1744-1785.

The several families with which his children subsequently became connected by marriage afford further confirmation of the honorable place that the Ortons held in the community. Samuel married Ruth Mason, Hezekiah married Anna Sedgwick, Jemima, the only daughter, married Captain Archibald McNeil, and John married a daughter of Deacon Joseph Landers, of Sharon. The families to which these Orton wives belong were among the best in the community. The death of Captain Samuel occurred in 1774.

I will here introduce a tabular list of the descendants of Samuel Orton through the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations, as in the case of the two older brothers. I make the sixth generation the limit of these tabular representations, because every individual up to that time was born in New England, and the great majority of the sixth generation was born in the closing years of the eighteenth century. The latest date of birth in the present list is 1811. At the beginning of the present century the 'great dispersion' began. The Indians were now out of the way, the Revolutionary War was over, the country was independent and was beginning to recognize its unity; highways and rivers were

opened, and the natural advantages of the better lands of Western Vermont and New York, and a little later of Ohio and Michigan, could assert themselves as against the stubborn rocky hills of western Connecticut and Massachusetts. It came to pass, therefore, that the people of New England were scattered, almost as if by an explosion, in the course of a few years. Entire families well-nigh disappeared from their old homes during the first quarter of the present century. The Ortons took part in this great movement, and members of the family were among the earliest settlers of the Champlain, the Mohawk, and the Genesee Valleys, and the shores of the western lakes in New York, Ohio, and even Canada.

# Table IV.

III.

IV.

V.

VI.

Samuel (2d) ... 1724-1810 M. Ruth Mason. Litchfield, Conn.	Gideon. .... 1754-1778		Samuel (3d) .... John. .... 1764 M. Ruth Norton. Goshen, Conn.	Samuel (3d) .... John. .... 1764 M. Ruth Norton. Goshen, Conn.	
	Miles. .... 1774-1814 M. Lydia Gibbes. Morris, Conn.	Araunah. .... 1760 M. Lois Gibbes. Morris, Conn.	Miles. .... 1774-1814 M. Lydia Gibbes. Morris, Conn.	James M. .... 1802 Leman G. .... 1805 (Orrin A. .... 1806	Samuel G. (D. D.). .... 1797-1873 Miles M. .... 1799-1820 William H. .... 1801-1842 Edward S. .... 1809-1882
Hezekiah. .... 1741-1770 M. Phoebe Johnson. Williamstown, N. Y.	Hezekiah. .... 1741-1770 M. Lucia Hungerford. Parish, N. Y.	Hezekiah. .... 1727 M. Anna Sedgwick. Litchfield, Conn.	Sedgwick. .... 1750 M. Sarah Tucker.	Hezekiah. .... 1727 M. Anna Sedgwick. Litchfield, Conn.	Solomon. .... 1768 Hezekiah. .... 1768
Capt. Samuel. .... 1694-1774 M. Abigail Smedley. Litchfield, South Farms (Now Morris, Ct.)	Eliada. .... 1748 M. Lucia Hungerford. Parish, N. Y.	Azariah. .... 1757 M. Sybill Cleveland	Darius. .... 1760 Dennis. .... 1766	Eliada, Jr. .... 1775-1850 Zenas. .... 1777 Leman. .... 1779	Hosmer. .... 1778 Eliada, Jr. .... 1775-1850 Zenas. .... 1777 Leman. .... 1779
Azariah. .... 1729-1774 M. Mary Davis. .... 1738-1831 Tyringham, Mass.	Azariah. .... 1761-1854 M. Abigail Jackson.	Reuben.	Darius. .... 1760 Darius. .... 1770 M. Vashti Jackson	Dennis. .... 1781 Sherman. .... 1783 Alfred. .... 1804	Heman H. .... 1780-1855 Edmund. .... 1780-1855 Harmon. .... 1780-1855 Daniel. .... 1811-1875
Gideon. .... 1732	Azariah G. (D. D.). .... 1789-1864 Charles. .... 1791-1850 Porter. .... 1794-1847 Caleb J. .... 1806-1850 John. .... 1811-1880	Lemuel. .... 1762-1831 Gideon. .... 1762-1831 John. .... 1762-1831 William. .... 1762-1831	John J. .... 1786-1870 Burr. .... 1791-1850 E. Birdseye. .... 1791-1850	Darius. .... 1806-1833 Azariah. .... 1807 Lambert. .... 1808 Albert. .... 1810	
Jemima. Nov. 11, 1740 M. Captain Archibald McNeil. John. .... 1744-1785 M. Remember Landers. Sharon, Ct.	Joseph. .... 1768 M. Polly Pardee.	Lemuel. .... 1762-1831 Gideon. .... 1762-1831 John. .... 1762-1831 William. .... 1762-1831	John J. .... 1786-1870 Burr. .... 1791-1850 E. Birdseye. .... 1791-1850	Milton P. (M. D.). .... 1789-1864 Chauncey. .... 1791-1850 Alanson. .... 1791-1850	Joseph. .... 1768 M. Polly Pardee.
Luther. .... 1774	Orrin. .... 1774				



## CHAPTER III.

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### THE DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS ORTON OF FARMINGTON.

I will now follow, as best I can, the history of the descendants of the three sons, Thomas, John, and Samuel, of the third generation. For convenience sake, I will keep these families distinct, and will finish what I have to say of each line before beginning with another. The several tables of the preceding pages can be consulted with profit in following this history. In fact, they are indispensable to a firm hold on the facts.

As I have already remarked, Thomas Orton, of the third generation of Ortons in New England, spent his life in Farmington, where he was born. He left two sons, Thomas, born 1709, and John, born 1717, and five daughters.

### SECTION I.

#### (a) THROUGH DEACON THOMAS ORTON OF TYRINGHAM.

Thomas, 1709, the third of this name in the New England family, continuing the names of both his father and his great-grandfather, was born and brought up at Farmington, and was married June 18, 1730, to Elizabeth Sedgwick, of the same town. In 1743 he removed from Farmington to Cornwall, of which town he was the first white settler.

He bought a large body of land in that part of the town which is now known as Cornwall Hollow, cleared it and built a house there; but after three years sold his property to his brother-in-law, Deacon Benjamin Sedgwick, by whose descendants the property to the extent of several hundred acres, is still owned. The house built by Thomas Orton was the ancestral home of General John Sedgwick, of the United States Army, who was a descendant in the fourth generation of Deacon Benjamin Sedgwick. A fine residence built by General Sedgwick occupies the site at the present time.

In 1749 Thomas Orton removed from Cornwall Hollow to Tyringham, Berkshire County, Mass., and settled in that part of the town which has been known as Hop Brook from the earliest time. Here, too, he was one of the first settlers, clearing the land himself and helping to plant civilization in what had before been the unbroken forest. He was the first elected deacon of the church of his town, and is reported in the old records as "a very respectable citizen." He will be known in our records as Thomas of Tyringham, or, better, as Deacon Thomas. His wife, Elizabeth Sedgwick, endured with him the hardships of thus making two homes in the wilderness. She died in Tyringham, May 16, 1758. To them were born six children, three sons and three daughters, five of whom survived their parents. The names of the children are as follows (two of second marriage being added):

Roger, March 11, 1731-1731.

Elizabeth, November 8, 1732.

Thomas, 1734-1780.

Anna, May 8, 1736.

David, 1737 (?)

Esther, May 12, 1738.

**Roger, 1740-1814.**

**Margaret, December 6, 1742.**

The name Roger is probably a family name on the Sedgwick side.

After the death of his first wife, which occurred May 16, 1738, four days after the birth of Esther, he married, February 18, 1741-2, Hepzibah Buel, and two children were born from this union, viz., Roger (1740-1814) and Margaret (1742). Deacon Thomas died in Tyringham in 1780. A long line of Ortons trace their descent from him. He had, beside the church title that I have used in these pages, a military title, viz., sergeant, as appears in the church records of Farmington. He is designated as "Sergeant Thomas Orton" in the record of his second marriage.

**(b) THROUGH JOHN ORTON—1717-1795.**

John, the second son of Thomas of Farmington, was born, brought up, and married in Farmington, but lived for some time in Tyringham and can be designated, John of Tyringham. He married Abigail, daughter of Samuel Woodruff, of Farmington, December 23, 1741. She died October 21, 1754. He married a second wife, Mary Slaughter, of Simsbury, December 11, 1755. Abigail Woodruff bore him six children, four sons and two daughters. Mary Slaughter became the mother of four sons and four daughters. A list of all is given below:

**John, 1742.**

**Phoebe, 1744. Died early.**

**Thomas, 1746.**

**Gideon, 1748. Died June 23, 1759.**

**Abigail, 1751.**

Ichabod, 1754.  
Mary, 1757. Married Philo Dexter.  
Gideon, 1759.  
William, 1762.  
Oliver, 1764-1846.  
Phoebe, 1766.  
Amos, 1768.  
Anna, 1772.  
Redome, 1776. Married Joseph Bacon.

I suspect that Abigail Woodruff Orton died at the birth of her son, Ichabod. His birth and his mother's death, at any rate, occurred in the same year. If my conjecture is well founded, it will explain the selection of the peculiar and uncommon Bible name which was given to the motherless child. See 1st Samuel, Chap. IV., verses 19-22.

From the loins of John (1717) a much larger number of descendants has sprung than from any other Orton of the fourth generation.

His family has kept well to the northward, being principally found in Vermont, northern New York, Canada, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington. Some of the branches of this stock are among the most distinguished of our entire family.

In his old age, probably about 1790, John removed from Tyringham to Shaftsbury, Vermont. At a later date he removed to Fairfield, Franklin County, Vermont, where he died April 3, 1795, at the home of his son, Gideon. A granddaughter, who lived until a few years ago, remembered him at this time as "bowed over, like a man reaping grain with a sickle."

There are two of his seven sons of whom I have no record. It is possible that they settled in Canada, and

there may be large families there of the John Orton stock, of whom I have thus far no knowledge whatever.

It scarcely admits of doubt that several sons of the great household above enumerated saw service in the Revolutionary War, but I find the record of but one, viz., John (I take it to be John, 1742). All western Massachusetts was aflame with military enthusiasm, and Tyringham, the home of John Orton, furnished its full quota for service. Two sons of his older brother, Thomas, were in the army, and at least one John Orton, either John, 1717, or John, Jr., 1742, was for seven months and twenty-nine days in the service. The name is found on the Revolutionary pay-rolls of Vermont. An unbroken tradition also declares that another son, Ichabod, was a chaplain in the Revolutionary War, but I find no record to this effect. Judge Harlow S. Orton, Chief Justice of Wisconsin, and a grandson of Ichabod, is authority for this claim. Another family tradition is that John and three sons, Thomas, Gideon, and Oliver, were in the war.

It is not at all improbable that they were among the extemporized forces that swarmed from the hills of western New England to assist in the capture of Burgoyne at Saratoga. In this case the absence of their names from the State rolls can be accounted for.

## SECTION II.

### FIFTH GENERATION OF ORTONS, IN THE LINE OF THOMAS, OF FARMINGTON.

#### (a) THROUGH THOMAS OF TYRINGHAM.

Coming now to the descendants in the fifth generations of Thomas of Farmington, we find ten in the male line, viz., the three sons of Deacon Thomas and the seven sons of John, enumerated on preceding pages.

The first of these to be taken up is Thomas, oldest son of Deacon Thomas. From collateral records we learn, or at least infer, that he was a physician. We accordingly designate him as Dr. Thomas. He was born in Farmington in 1734, but lived at Tyringham most of his life. He died at a comparatively early age, viz., in April, 1780, in his forty-sixth year. His father also died in the same year, as the records indicate. The life of Dr. Thomas was short, but it seems to have not been altogether uneventful. He married for his first wife, Ann Dix, who bore him one son, James. But soon afterward he obtained a divorce from her. There was probably a domestic tragedy here, of which we get only the slightest hint. Divorces in the rural communities of New England were certainly very unusual at this time. Thomas soon afterwards married again. The name of his second wife was Sarah Atwood, of Woodbury, Connecticut. She was the daughter of Lieutenant Jonathan Atwood, son of Dr. Jonathan, one of the earliest settlers of the town. She bore him three sons and two daughters. She was a superior and attractive woman, and after Dr. Thomas's death, though encumbered with the care of her six children, five of them her own and one of them the son of the divorced wife, she commanded the admiration of one of the magnates of western Massachusetts at that time, Colonel Giles Jackson, of Tyringham, a gallant and honored officer in the Revolutionary War. She married Colonel Jackson, becoming his second wife, and to them five children were born. By his first wife Colonel Jackson had fourteen children. The Orton children grew up in Colonel Jackson's household, and warm affection seems to have always existed between them and the Jackson children. Our "Grandmother Jackson is always mentioned with honor and affection in the Orton records of this branch whenever the op-

portunity occurs. She died in La Fayette, Oneida County, New York, May 1, 1839, in her eighty-ninth year. I give the list of Dr. Thomas's sons in order, herewith:

James, son of first wife.  
Thomas, of second wife.  
Abiram, of second wife.  
Philo, of second wife.  
Belinda (Mrs. Brewer—Tyringham).  
Sarah (Mrs. Danforth—La Fayette, N. Y.).

David, the second son of Deacon Thomas, was born about 1736. He was reared in Tyringham and married there. But about the opening of the century he removed to Johnstown, New York, in the Mohawk Valley, where he spent the remainder of his days. No records that I have seen show whom he married, or when; but the fact that he left a son and a daughter is duly chronicled. David was a soldier in the Revolutionary Army. His name appears in the State archives of Massachusetts.

Roger, the third son of Deacon Thomas Orton, was born in 1740. He grew up and settled in Tyringham and occupied his father's farm for a number of years. He was a corporal in the Revolutionary Army, as is shown by the military records of Massachusetts. Early in the present century he removed to the "Genesee country" of western New York, and settled in Geneseo. He had a large family of children, the names of whom are given below:

Horatio.  
Mary (also called Polly).  
Timothy.  
Huldah.

David.  
Amos.  
Elias.  
Roger, Jr.  
Margaret.  
Thomas.

One of his sons was killed in the War of 1812. Roger himself died at Geneseo in 1814. It is thought that his death was hastened by the loss of his son.

(b) THROUGH JOHN OF TYRINGMAM.

The family of John (1717), it will be remembered, consisted of seven sons and five daughters, who survived him. The list will be repeated here for convenience: John (1742), Thomas (1746), Ichabod (1754), Gideon (1759), William (1762), Oliver (1764), Amos (1768). All seem to have been born in Farmington, Connecticut, or Tyringham, Massachusetts. John (1742) removed to Bennington, Vermont, and has a record of service in the Revolutionary War from that State. After the war he removed to Little Falls, Herkimer County, New York, where he died. He left two sons, Samuel and Solomon, both of whom were born in Bennington, Samuel about 1763, and Solomon in 1764. In 1801 Samuel removed to Cumberland, Ontario. Solomon settled in Luzerne, Warren County, New York, and died there in 1852. Each of them has left a large number of Orton descendants.

Ichabod was born in 1754. The death of his mother occurred on October 21, of the same year. It is not unlikely that it occurred in connection with the birth of this son. If this were so, it might explain the unusual scripture name

which was inflicted on the motherless babe. The significance of the name Ichabod, it will be remembered, is "the glory has departed." He became a Baptist minister and served, according to a tradition already noted, as a chaplain in the Revolutionary Army. We know but little of him, but there was evidently a stock of moral and mental force in him that lifted him quite out of the commonplace. He married Naomi Hard, of Vermont, who bore him a large family, as follows:

Myron, 1784-1875. (M. D.) Cambria, N. Y.  
Harlow N., 1785-1837. (M. D.) Bucyrus, Ohio.  
Anna, 1787-1844. M., 1805, Ozias Safford.  
Amarilla, 1788. M. Theodore England.  
John B., 1790-1843. (Lawyer.) Somerset, Ohio.  
David, 1791.  
Clarissa, 1792. M. —— Barber.  
Pamelia, 1794. M. —— Foote.

Rev. Ichabod emigrated from Vermont to Brookfield, Madison County, New York, where he died in 1797, while still in the prime of life. I do not find data that show whether the children were born in New England or New York, but I incline to the opinion that they were born in New England and mainly reared in New York. His widow married again. The name of her second husband was Crissey.

The family of this Baptist minister has proved a remarkable one, at least for the Orton annals. The two older sons, Myron and Harlow, studied medicine, and Harlow lived by the practice of his profession. John B., the next son, was a lawyer of good repute, who lived and died in Somerset, Ohio. David was a farmer in Cambria, New York. He died unmarried.

Gideon 1759), fourth son of John of Tyringham (1717) and the first son of the second wife, Mary Slaughter, was born in the same year that his half-brother, Gideon (1748) died. The name was at once transferred. He married Phoebe Oatman, by whom he had six children.

Mary, 1791. M. John Perry.

Aaron H., 1793-1872. M. Polly Hall, 1819.

Lavinia, 1795.

Sarah, 1798-1824.

Truman, 1800-1877. M. Alvira Gleason.

Charlotte, 1803.

Gideon lived for a time in Fairfield, Vermont. His father (John, 1717) died at his home.

Oliver (1764-1846), sixth son of John (1717), married Dorcas Squire, by whom he had six children. He and his descendants have remained in Vermont. The names of his children are as follows:

Olive, 1797-1866.

Lyman W., 1799-1870.

Elizabeth J., 1804.

William S., 1809-1867. M. Anzoletta Loveland.

John Benjamin, 1811-1885. M. Adaline S. Loveland.

Amos, seventh and youngest son of John and Mary S. Orton, was born in 1768, and was reared in Tyringham and southern Vermont. He married Lovisa, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Williams, of Belcher, Massachusetts. Joseph Williams was a near relative, and perhaps a brother, of General Williams, the founder of Williamstown, Massachusetts. Amos removed to Hadley Falls, Saratoga

County, New York, where at least two sons were born to him, viz., Lorenzo, 1798-1865, and Amos, June 7, 1809-1888, both of whom I am able to trace in their descendants. The complete list of his children is given herewith, viz:

Lorenzo, 1798-1865.

Anna, 1802-1880. (Mrs. Joseph Tucker.)

Lovisa, 1806-1878. (Mrs. Calvin Mills.)

Amos, 1809-1888.

Angelina, 1811-1866. (Mrs. Benjamin Phelps.)

Sarah J., 1813. (Mrs. L. B. Irish.) Halstead,  
Kansas.

Of Thomas, second son (1746), and William, fifth son (1762), of John, 1717, we have no further record.

### SECTION III.

#### SIXTH GENERATION OF ORTONS, IN THE LINE OF THOMAS OF FARMINGTON. (a) THROUGH DR. THOMAS OF TYRINGHAM.

The names of the Ortons of this generations have been already given in connection with the names of their fathers. Although it involves repetition, they will be given again here, so as to render the tracing of them easy and the identification definite. Care must be taken in this respect, because so many that are enumerated in these lists have the same Christian names. Coming into connection with our own times, we can learn more of the personal history of those included in the generation now to be considered than of their predecessors. I will follow the same order that I have introduced in preceding sections.

The sons of Dr. Thomas (1734-1780) come first in review. James, the eldest of the four, was born in Tyringham, and

probably between 1760 and 1770. He was brought up in the home of his stepfather, Colonel Giles Jackson, of Tyringham. The traditions of that household speak of him as a "wild" youth, but this designation in the New England of that day, does not necessarily involve any great amount of moral obliquity. Independence of thought and action, especially in matters pertaining to theology, would have been quite likely to be described in such terms. James left Tyringham in early life and lived for a time in Albany, New York. He probably studied law while there, but soon after removed to Paris, Oneida County, New York, and finally to Winfield, Herkimer County, where he carried on the business of farming in connection with the practice of law. He was subsequently appointed a judge in the county courts, and is known in our records as Judge James. I do not find the name of his wife, but he married before he left Massachusetts.

Thomas, the second son of Dr. Thomas, was born in Tyringham, October 5, 1774. He grew up in Colonel Giles Jackson's household, as already related. He married Beulah, daughter of Reuben Rockwood, of Tyringham, and removed first to Augusta, New York, and afterwards to Hamilton, New York, where he died July 21, 1821. He was made a justice of the peace of Madison County, and can accordingly be designated henceforth as Esquire Thomas. His children are as follows:

Beulah, September 12, 1798.

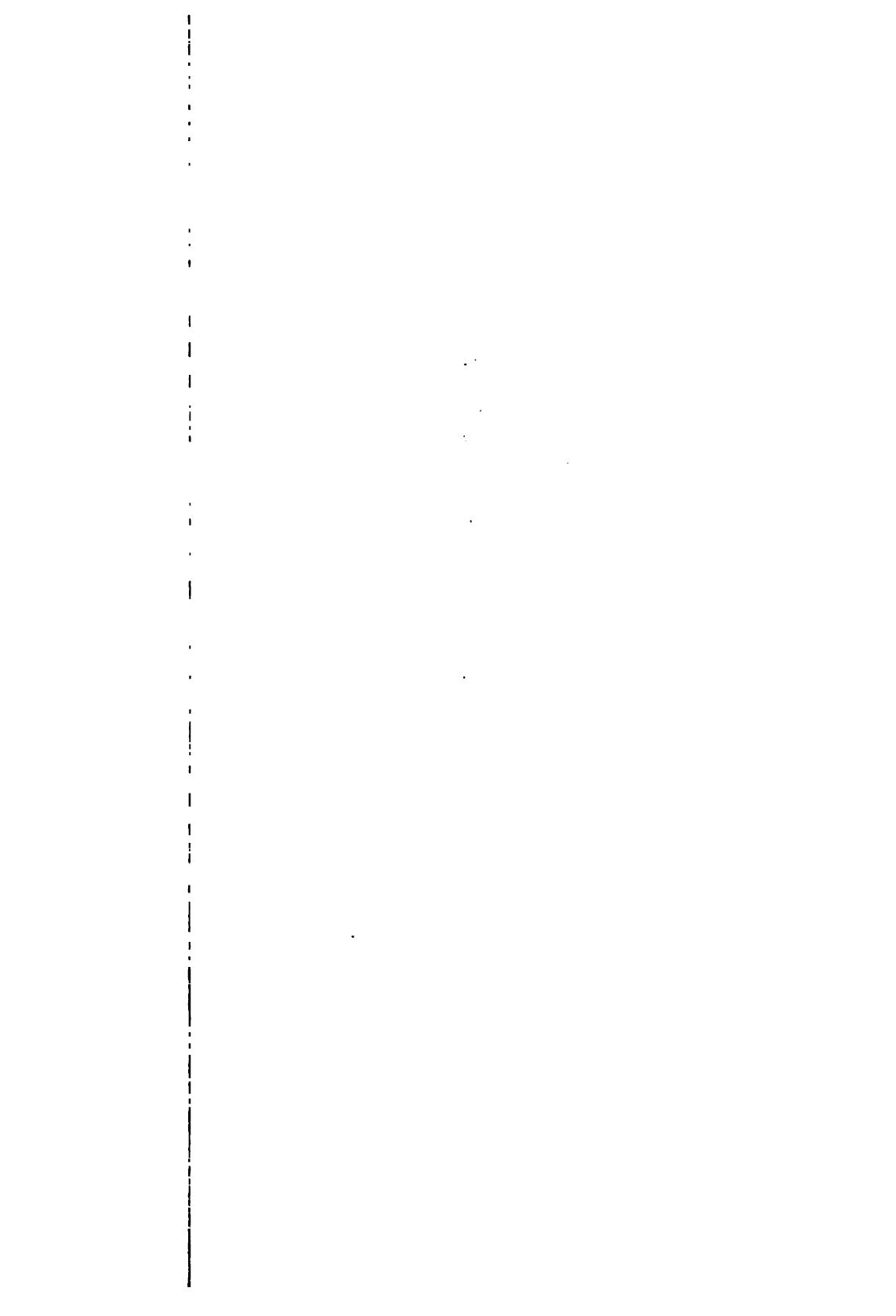
Belinda, October 26, 1799-1818.

Deborah, January 18, 1802. M. Rev. Jason Corwin.

Philo Atwood, March 15, 1804-1872.

Jason Rockwood, December 7, 1806.

Abiram, January 25, 1810-1810.





Charles J., June 15, 1815-1863.

Lyman O., January 16, 1819.

Abiram was the second son of Dr. Thomas and Sally Atwood Orton. He was one of the pioneer settlers of Chautauqua County, New York, purchasing from the Holland Land Company a beautiful farm in Pomfret, near Fredonia, and also land in Arkwright, in 1807. This farm has been but recently divided among his heirs. He held several offices of trust in town and county, and was one of the vestrymen of the first Episcopal church of the county. He was appointed an assistant judge of the county by Governor DeWitt Clinton. He was twice married, but left no children.

Philo, the fourth and youngest son of Dr. Thomas and Sally Atwood Orton, was born September 9, 1778. He was but two years old when his father died and therefore grew up in the Jackson homestead without knowing any other home. He seems to have been regarded with peculiar affection by all the children of that large and composite household. He lived for a little time in Augusta, New York, and then found his way to Chautauqua County among the earliest settlers. He made the earliest entry of land in the town of Pomfret, viz., in 1806, selecting a farm in one of the most fertile and beautiful tracts of the county, on the old Buffalo and Erie road, about four miles west of Fredonia. Here he lived a long and honored life. He was the first supervisor of the town and held the office continuously from 1808 to 1819. He was a surveyor, and thus made wide acquaintance in the county. In 1811 he was appointed a judge of the county court by Governor DeWitt Clinton. He represented Chautauqua County in the New York Legislature in 1819 and was named as an

elector on the general ticket of the State in 1832 and 1840. In the latter year the Whig ticket was successful and he cast his vote for General W. H. Harrison. He was universally esteemed and honored by the citizens of his county. He married Irene Hurd in 1802. After her death, he married Clarissa Sage in 1818. By his first wife he had three sons, viz., Thomas, born 1803; Abiram, 1805-1820; Charles Jackson, 1808-1886. There was no issue from the second marriage.

The record of Dr. Thomas's four sons has been shown to be an interesting one. Three of them became judges in the new homes which they made for themselves in western New York, and the fourth attained an office that was in the same line and of good repute in those days, viz., justice of the peace. They must have inherited the qualities that bring influence and authority.

I have an indistinct remembrance of Judge Philo, whom I saw once or twice, at or near his home, in my boyhood. The picture in my memory is that of a tall, white-haired old man, who bore himself with great natural dignity and who inspired in my youthful mind an undefined sense of his superiority to his neighbors. He died about 1860.

Of Dr. Thomas's two daughters, the only record that remains is that one, Sarah M., married — Danforth, and died without children, in Lafayette, New York, and that the other married Jonas Brewer, and lived and died in Monterey, Massachusetts. Her children removed to Michigan.

Of the son and daughter, with whom David (1736), Johnstown, New York, is credited, a few facts have recently been gathered by Judge Philo A. Orton, of Darlington, Wis. They come in on a later page.

Roger's large family of seven sons and three daughters has been already named. Table VI. shows our present

## Table VI.

V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.
	Horatio ... 1782-1832		
	Mary (Polly) ... 1784-1838	Mrs. Amanda Symonds.	
	M. Oren Heath.	Buffalo.	
	Timothy ... 1785-1813		Oscar Orson—Clayton III.
	Killed at Ft. Erie.		Alfred Wallace—Bozeman, Mont.
	Hulda ... 1771-1822		L. Van—Butte, Mont.
	David ... 1790-1861	James Christopher.	Fred. " "
	M. Ruth Clark.		Will C. " "
	Amos ... 1792-1847		James M. " "
		Esther M ... 1820 Geneva, Ill.	Walter S. " "
Roger ... 1740-1814 Genesee, N. Y. M. Esther Avery, of Tyringham, Mass.	Elias ... 1794-1850 M. Electa Chap- pel. Augusta, Iowa.	Elias, Jr ... 1823 M. Virginia Kneeland.	William P ... 1854 Katie A ... 1856 Charles ... 1858-1858 Oscar ... 1860 Ida ... 1866 Dora ... 1867 Charles B ... 1870 Walter ... 1872
		Palmer ... 1826 Augusta, Ia.	Esther ... 1855 Lyman ... 1860 Francis ... 1863 Lettie ... 1866 Bert ... 1869
		Thomas A ... d. 1880 Texas (Hill Co.).	Thomas, Jr ... 1873 William ... 1876 Walter ... 1877
		M. Emma ____	
		1842-1862	
		William D. Died in war, 1862.	
Roger ... 1799-1851			
Margaret ... 1801-1863	Mrs. Math. Armstrong. M. Samuel Magee.	Livonia Sta., N. Y.	
Thomas ... 1803-1879	M. Irene Heath. M. 2d, Lucy—	Lucy. Agnes. Edwin. Esther ... 1851	



knowledge of that line. The children were born in Tyringham, but spent most of their mature years in western New York and died there, in most instances, none of them reaching extreme longevity. The average age of the seven sons, the life of one having been ended prematurely by violence, was fifty years, and the ages of four ranged between fifty and fifty-six years. I presume that some of them in their later years emigrated to "the west" of their day, viz., Illinois, Iowa, etc., just as their father had emigrated from New England fifty years before. At least their sons are found in these western States now. I will review the line in order.

Of Horatio (1782-1832) I have found no data.

Mary (Polly) (1784-1838) married Oren Heath. One daughter survives from this marriage, viz., Mrs. Amanda Symonds, of Buffalo, New York.

Timothy (1785-1813), as already stated, was killed in the War of 1812.

Of Huldah (1787-1822) no record has come down.

David, born September 1, 1780, married Ruth Clark and removed to Clayton, Illinois, where he died November 24, 1849. They had a large family. The names of the children will be found in a subsequent section.

Margaret (1801-1863) married Samuel Magee, and is represented by a daughter, Mrs. Matthew Armstrong, of Livonia Station, New York.

Finally, Thomas (1803-1879) married Irene Heath for his first wife, and Lucy — for his second wife, and left four children, three daughters and one son.

#### (b) THROUGH JOHN OF TYRINGHAM.

Coming to the sixth generation through John of Tyringham (1717), we find two sons of John (1742) of Little Falls,

oldest son of John (1717), viz., Samuel and Solomon. Where they were born I have not learned. In 1790 Samuel married Meriba, niece of General Nathaniel Greene. Samuel resided for a number of years in Bennington, Vermont, and will be designated as Samuel of Bennington. He had fourteen children, twelve of whom grew to maturity, and in 1801 he removed from Vermont into Canada. From this stock a host of descendants has sprung. The name of their distinguished kinsman on their mother's side has been a favorite one in this branch of the family, but it was uniformly shortened to Nathan Greene, and sometimes the final name was omitted altogether.

Of the remaining sons of John (1717) there are two, viz., Thomas (1746) and William (1756), of whom I can say nothing more, except that William removed to Sodus Bay, New York, and died at Long Point, Ontario. But Ichabod, Gideon, Oliver, and Amos, left families that have been traced.

Rev. Ichabod, as will be remembered, lived in Brookfield, New York, and died there in 1795. His widow subsequently married again, becoming Mrs. Crissey. Ichabod must have gone to Brookfield soon after the Revolution, for all of his children were reared there. Myron studied medicine and established himself as a physician and farmer in early life, in Cambria, Niagara County, New York, and numerous descendants of his still reside in that vicinity. In 1811 he married Mary Hoit, and ten children were born to them, several of whom still survive.

Harlow N., M. D. (1785-1837), was also brought up in Brookfield, New York, and was married there to Grace, daughter of Rev. Nathaniel Marsh, a Baptist minister, who, according to the family tradition, was a chaplain in the Revolutionary Army. Harlow studied medicine and en-

gaged in practice in Cambria, New York, to which place he removed in 1817. He afterwards came on to Ohio and lived in Bucyrus a few years, but he next took a still longer step westward, removing to Iowa, where he died in 1837, in the fifty-third year of his age. He left three sons, who were just entering manhood at the time of his death.

To all these families we shall revert in the following section.

Ichabod's third son, John B. (1790-1843), became a lawyer and settled in Somerset, Perry County, Ohio. He died there in 1843, but is still remembered by some of the older residents of the county. He was a man of good gifts and excellent character. Because of his uprightness and independence, he commanded the respect and confidence of the entire community. He met on equal terms in his profession such men as Thomas Ewing and Henry Stanbery. His knowledge of the law and his sound judgment made his advice and counsel sought for, and it was to this branch of his profession that he mainly devoted himself.

He married Matilda Reynolds, of Somerset, about 1830, and by her he had two sons, Julius T., who was born in 1831, and Alfred R., born in 1832.

Of the five daughters of Rev. Ichabod Orton, I have no record beyond the facts already given, viz., their names, dates of birth, and surnames of their husbands.

Gideon (1759), fifth son of John of Tyringham, married Phoebe Oatman, and resided in Fairfield, Vermont. He left six children, two sons and four daughters.

Oliver (1764-1846) lived in Fairfield, Vermont, married Dorcas Squire and left five children, three sons and two daughters.

This completes the account of the sixth generation of Ortons through Thomas of Farmington and his two sons, Deacon Thomas of Tyringham and John of Tyringham.

#### SECTION IV.

##### SEVENTH AND LATER GENERATIONS OF ORTONS, IN THE LINE OF THOMAS OF FARMINGTON.

###### (a) THROUGH DR. THOMAS OF TYRINGHAM.

In this section I will trace as fully as I am able the history of Thomas of Farmington's descendants through the seventh and succeeding generations to the present time. I shall make use of tables similar to those already introduced, following, of course, the order which I have thus far used.

I begin with the oldest son of Dr. Thomas's oldest son, viz., Judge James Orton, of Winfield, New York. He left one son, James Pierpont, who studied medicine and practiced his profession for many years in Forestville, Chautauqua County, New York, only a few miles from the homes of his uncles, Abiram and Philo. In my boyhood I often heard his name mentioned by his neighbors and friends. Dr. James P. Orton left two sons, Thomas Henry and Lyman S., and three daughters.

Thomas Henry was born in 1832. He married Georgiana Thompson and lived for a number of years in Erie, Pennsylvania, where he died in 1876, leaving one daughter, Electa Sanford. Mrs. Thomas H. Orton still resides in Erie.

Lyman S. Orton married —— Weaver, and now resides in Taos, New Mexico.

The three daughters of Dr. James P. are married and reside in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Esquire Thomas, second son of Dr. Thomas, married Beulah, daughter of Reuben Rockwood, in Tyringham, Massachusetts, in 1797. Immediately after his marriage, I judge from the records, he removed to central New York, stopping for a few years at Augusta, but afterwards removing to Hamilton, Madison County, where all his children were born, and where he himself died in 1821.

Two daughters, Beulah and Belinda, were born in 1798 and 1799, respectively. A third daughter, Deborah C., born in 1802, married Rev. Jason Corwin, to whom she bore a large family. The name of one of her sons I find in the records accessible to me, viz., Charlton Corwin, Esq., of Jefferson City, Missouri.

Philo Atwood, oldest son of Esquire Thomas, was born in 1804. In 1830 he was married to Nancy Collins, of Burlington, New York, by whom he had eight children, six of whom, all sons, reached maturity. He lived in Hamilton up to 1839, when he removed to Eaton, in the same county, where he remained eleven years. In 1850 he removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, and in 1855 to Darlington, Wisconsin, where he died in 1872. I met him once at Eaton, in my youth, and have a rather indistinct recollection of his personal appearance. I recall him as being a man of large frame, serious and solid-looking, which I find to be not out of keeping with the traditions and inheritances of his family. He is represented as a man of rare intelligence and refinement, of irreproachable character, and sterling integrity, and universally respected and beloved.

At this point I will introduce all the data I have pertaining to the sons of Philo Atwood Orton. His oldest son, Gerrit Van Zandt, born at Hamilton in 1834, married Sarah Genevieve Knapp, at Rockford, Illinois, in 1854. He now resides at Berry Creek, Butte County, California. He has a

family of five daughters and two sons. Several of the daughters reside at Monterey, California. The names of the children are given herewith: Frances B. (1854), Alice G. (1857), Elinor J. (1859), Collins K. (1861), Fred (1867), Faith (1871), Ruth (1873).

Collins Knapp Orton is a resident of San Francisco. He was married March 23, 1887, to Mary Elizabeth Larziler, and has three children, William Gerrit, born January 3, 1888; Josephine M., born January 10, 1889, and Thomas Knapp, born November 4, 1892.

The second son, Fred, now resides in London, England. He is represented as a mechanical engineer of great ability and promise. A large measure of talent in the mechanical line runs through all the family of Philo A. 1st.

Philo A. 2d, born at Hamilton, New York, in 1837, is now a resident of Darlington, Wisconsin. He is a lawyer in active practice and has kept up the traditions of his branch of the family by attaining the title of "judge." He is also at the head of the First National Bank of Darlington. In 1862 he was married to Sarah M. Osborn, of Darlington. They have two children, Susanne, born in 1871, a graduate of Rockford College, and Robert Eugene, born in 1873, now book-keeper in the First National Bank of Darlington. April 16, 1895, Robert was married to Harriet Swift, of Darlington.

Lyman Osgood Orton, born at Eaton, New York, 1839, was married to Mary Louisa Barling, of Darlington, Wisconsin, in 1860. He now resides at Mishawaka, Indiana, where he is engaged in the business of mechanical engineering. His son, William Osgood, born in 1871, is a graduate of Trinity College, Hartford, and now resides in Mishawaka. He was married, June 20, 1895, to Claribel Ormsby, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Thomas Eugene, third son of Philo A. Orton 1st, of Eaton, New York, was born in the last-named place in 1842. He was captain of Company K, Third Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers, in the War of the Rebellion, and was killed before Atlanta in 1864, dying in the dew of his youth.

Charles Jackson (2d), born in Eaton, 1845, is now a resident of Cincinnati, Ohio. He married Elizabeth Woods, of that city, in 1868. Of the five children that have been born to them, four survive, viz., Carrie, married in 1886 to Albert Burrows Morrow, of Cincinnati; Philo A. (3d), born 1873, a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, and now engaged as an instructor in that institution in the department of civil engineering; Alexander, born 1874, and Frances Eugenia, born in 1887.

Frank M., the youngest son of Philo A. (1st), was born in Eaton, New York, 1847, and now resides in Syracuse, Nebraska. He was married there in 1884 to Augusta M. Greenburg, who has borne him four children, three daughters and one son, viz., Charles Thomas, born 1889. The names of the daughters are, Charlotte, 1885; Eunice M., 1887, and Ruth A., 1894.

Jason Rockwood Orton, M. D., was one of the most gifted members of the family. He was the second son of Esquire Thomas of Hamilton, and was born in that town in 1806. He studied medicine and practiced for a number of years at Binghamton, New York, among other places. He had, however, a decided taste for literature, and withdrew from his profession early to be able to devote his time to the latter calling. He wrote verse, and published two or three volumes of poems. He was a contributor to current literature. One of his more ambitious tasks is a poetico-historic treatment of certain myths of the North American Indians. It is entitled, "Camp Fires of the Red Men." Dr. Orton was

interested in the advance of science and in the larger phases of politics and theology, and seems to have been in all respects a wakeful-minded and progressive thinker. I have read some very interesting private letters of his, addressed to his uncle, Judge Philo, of Pomfret, New York, which are now in possession of Orton Gifford, Esq., of Chicago, great-grandson of Judge Philo. They give a good deal of insight into the mind and character of their author.

Dr. Orton married Sophronia Hotchkiss. I do not know her original residence, but the Hotchkiss name is common in Broome County, New York, where, as I have said, Dr. Orton resided for a time. He left one son by his first wife, Charles G., who was born in 1840, and who resides in Brooklyn, New York. Charles married Sarah T. Jenks, and has three children, one daughter and two sons, viz., Beulah A., 1866; Walter R., 1868; Arthur Vanderbilt, 1872. Charles G. Orton was for a number of years in the employ of the United States government in the New York custom house.

Dr. J. R. Orton, in 1844, married a second wife, Sarah S. Russell, a daughter of Giles Russell, of Russellville (now Bell Valley), Erie County, Pennsylvania. She survived her husband, and is now living at Yonkers, New York. Three daughters and two sons were born of this marriage. The daughters are, Caroline, Sarah, and May Elizabeth, born in Binghamton, and Florence Isabel, born in Brooklyn, New York. The two sons were Jason Rockwood, second, and Walter Rockwood; both died in infancy. Caroline S. was first married in 1868, to George Edgar Brown, of Hampton, Maine, a graduate of Bowdoin College, and a soldier in the Union Army in 1862. He afterwards practiced law in Washington, D. C., where he died in 1873. She afterwards, in September, 1876, married Colonel Irving W. Fuller, of Wisconsin. He died in October, 1892, at Ashford Park,

Ardsley, New York. By her first marriage she had one son, her only child, named Verdi Edgar. He was adopted by Colonel Fuller and took his name. Mrs. Fuller now lives at Yonkers. May Elizabeth married, in 1873, Alexander Fitzgerald, at Montreal, Canada. He died in New York, in 1885. She married her second husband, Rev. Harry Van Auken, at Denver, Colorado, in 1887. Florence Isabel married William H. Whitenect, at Boston, in 1873. He died at Auburn, New York. She married a second husband, George G. Kimball, of Wells, Maine, a graduate of Bowdoin College, now a practicing attorney in Washington, D. C. Their residence is Wheaton, Maryland.

Charles Jackson (1815-1863), third son of Esquire Thomas, was born and reared at Hamilton, New York. He married Esther Shapley and passed most of his active life in Ohio. He was editor and publisher of newspapers and was thus engaged for some time in Sandusky and for a shorter time in Fremont. He died in Sandusky, in 1863, before his time, as we might say, being but forty-eight years old.

His ability as an editorial writer was recognized. Ex-President Hayes once spoke to me of Charles J. Orton, with whom he was well acquainted, as a bright and well-read man. He was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of the State that held its session about 1860. He had four children, viz.:

Thomas Shapley, 1836-1863. Killed at Gettysburg.

Jason Rockwood, 1839-1863. Killed at Stony Creek, Tenn.

Eveline, 1844-1868.

Jennie, 1847-1888. Died at Chicago.

Jennie Orton was first married to Hiram L. Andrus, April 10, 1864, and second, to Charles I. Wetmore, January 11, 1871. She left two sons, Charles O., born October 29, 1866, and Frank O., born November 12, 1867. These sons were adopted by the second husband, and took the name of Wetmore. They are both in the employ of the First National Bank of Chicago. Frank O. Wetmore married, April 22, 1890, Miss Maria L. Barlow. They have one child, Orville C. Wetmore, born October 10, 1894.

Four descendants of Dr. Thomas Orton lost their lives in the service of their country in 1863.

Lyman Osgood Orton, M. D. (1819-1884), the youngest son of Esquire Thomas, was born in Hamilton, studied medicine and settled in Lebanon, New York, and afterwards removed to Lincoln, Illinois. He married Julia Cleveland, daughter of General Cleveland, of Madison, New York. He died in 1884. Three children were born to them at Lebanon, whose names are given below: Samuel C. (1842), Kansas City; Julia R. (1850), Oswego, New York; Franklin C. (1852), Lincoln, Illinois. Samuel married Amelia Wait and has five children, named as follows: Julia C., 1875; Charles, 1877; William, 1881; Edward, 1882; Henry, 1885. Franklin C. married Caroline Rutledge, of Lincoln, and has six children, viz., Virginia, 1884; Lyman O., second, 1886; Franklin C., Jr., 1888; William R., 1889; Gladys, 1891; Louis S., 1893.

Dr. Lyman O. Orton died at his home in Lincoln in 1884.

Judge Abiram (1776-1837) left no children. There remain, therefore, only the descendants of Judge Philo (1778-1860) to be assigned to their places in this record. Judge Philo had three sons: Thomas (1803), who died in early manhood, but who, according to one account, left several children; Abiram (1805-1820); Charles Jackson (1808-1886), who inherited the fine farm which was first occupied by his

father, and spent his life there. He was an influential and respected citizen, representing Chautauqua County in the State Legislature in 1847. He married Hannah J. Hall, who was of Quaker parentage. After her death, he married Harriet Randall. By his first marriage there were born to him a son, Charles, and a daughter, Helen Mary. Charles enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, and died in the army in 1863. Helen Mary married —— Gifford, of Fredonia, and bore him one son, viz., Orton Gifford, of Chicago. The Orton name is therefore lost, as a surname, so far as this branch of the family is concerned.

This completes the account which I am able to give of the descendants of Dr. Thomas of Tyringham.

The line of his brother, David, is next in order. I have already confessed my inability to furnish many facts in regard to it, but through later investigations, made by Judge Philo A. Orton, of Darlington, Wisconsin, I can add a few statements here. David left a son, Chauncey, and a daughter, who married —— Austin. She left a son, Thomas S. Austin, who married and had a son, David Orton Austin, born August 23, 1822. Fred. W. Austin, of Gloversville, New York, is a son of the last-named, David O. Austin.

Thomas S. Austin died about 1824-5. Chauncey Orton, son of David, married the widow of his nephew, Thomas S. Austin, and had by her five children, viz., Lorenzo, Clarissa, Caroline, Lydia, Helen. Lorenzo lived and died at Rockwood, New York, and left no sons, as I infer. One of the four daughters married a Lowry. A son, A. J. Lowry, of Gloversville, was born from this union.

I conclude that, though the Orton blood is continued in this family, the Orton name is not re-enforced through David's descendants.

Roger's second son, Timothy, enlisted for a short term and was engaged in the battle of Fort Erie. A few days after the battle, General Porter, who was in command of the troops near Niagara Falls, sent a squad down to Lewiston Heights to recover a cannon that had been left behind in the movements of the army. They reached the Heights, but night overtook them and they went into camp in the woods near by. The British and their Indian allies were known to be in force on the opposite side of the river, and the danger of the situation was fully recognized by the squad. They saw how easy it would be for a troop of Indians to cross in the night and attack them. The term of enlistment of several members of the squad had expired and they were merely waiting for their papers of discharge. This was the case with Timothy Orton.

Their worst fears were realized. In the early morning the dread war whoop rang out in their little camp. Timothy Orton was shot and scalped and several of his companions shared the same fate. The Indians recrossed the river as soon as their bloody work was done. Roger Orton was notified of the tragedy as soon as possible. He came on with a wagon for the corpse of his son, which had already been placed in a coffin of rough boards, and carried it to his home for interment.

Timothy left two sons, Philo and Byron, both of whom emigrated to Wisconsin and settled there.

David (1790) removed to Clayton, Illinois, dying there November 24, 1849. He married Ruth Clark and left five sons and four daughters, whose names are given below:

Timothy, December 29, 1815. M. Aurelia Osborn.

D. February 15, 1849.

James C., February 8, 1817. M. Paulona Mounts, 1850. D. September 19, 1879.

Horatio L., November 19, 1820. M. Nancy Pease (or Bailey), 1847. D. October 21, 1860.

Eloda H., August 24, 1822. M. James M. Burtis, —. D. September 13, 1849.

Melissa R., September 11, 1824. M. James M. Reaugh, Kansas.

Clark, December 23, 1826. M. Mary A. E. Kellar, 1856, Clayton, Illinois.

Almira, June 17, 1829. M. James Mann, Naples, Illinois.

Mary J., August 18, 1833. M. Robert Colpitts, November, 1886.

Elias, April 24, 1837. M. Elizabeth Davis, Poncha Springs, Colorado.

James Christopher, second son of David, was born at Olean Point, Alleghany County, New York, February 8, 1817. He married Paulona Mounts, emigrated to the West and raised a large family, viz.:

Oscar O., B. Dubuque, Iowa, 1852. D. Virginia City, Montana, October 29, 1879.

Alfred Wallace. B. Council Bluffs, Iowa, July 8, 1855. M. Maria DeBooth, at Salt Lake City, 1883. Resides at Bozeman, Montana.

Lee Van, B. Council Bluffs, Iowa, February 8, 1859. M., in 1885, Cora M. Rawlins; second, Josephine Garner. Resides at Butte, Montana.

Fred Lloyd, B. Council Bluffs, Iowa, January 15, 1862. Resides at Butte, Montana.

William Clark, B. Springfield, Utah, January 7, 1864. Resides at Butte, Montana.

James Milton, B. Virginia City, Montana, June 16, 1867. Resides at Butte, Montana.

Walter Scott, B. Virginia City, Montana, October 28, 1869. Resides at Butte, Montana.

Viola, B. Virginia City, Montana, April 10, 1872. D. January 16, 1878.

Clark, fourth son of David, has the following children:

Rosella, December 13, 1856. M. William B. May, Kansas.

Berinthia, July 8, 1857. M. John D. Black. D. September 15, 1882.

Charles F., November 25, 1861. D. in infancy.

Ida, November 25, 1862. D. in infancy.

Eva, June 3, 1865. M. Harvey Williams.

Vandeleur, June 10, 1868.

Clark, February 28, 1870. D. in infancy.

Ellsworth C., April 13, 1874.

Amos, fourth son of Roger and Esther Avery Orton, left four children, viz.:

Roger.

Henry, Shreveport, Texas.

George, Palmyra, Missouri.

Huldah. Died young.

Elias, fifth son of Roger (1740), (1794-1850), married Electa Chappel, removed to Augusta, Iowa, and left a family of three sons and one daughter, as follows:

Esther M., 1820, Geneva, Illinois.

Elias, Jr., 1823, Augusta, Iowa.

Palmer, 1826, Augusta, Iowa.

Thomas A., 1830-1878, Hill County, Texas.

Miss Esther M. Orton is one of my most highly esteemed correspondents in the line of the Orton genealogy. She has taken a deep and intelligent interest in the subject, and has spared no pains in collecting the facts in regard to Roger Orton's descendants. What I have to present in regard to this branch of the family has been largely contributed by her.

Elias, Jr. (1823), is a successful farmer in Augusta, Iowa. He married Virginia H. Kneeland and has a family of eight children, viz.:

William P., 1854.

Kittie A., 1856.

Charles, 1858.

Oscar, 1860.

Ida, 1865.

Dora, 1867.

Clara B., 1870.

Walter, 1872.

Palmer (1826), the younger brother of Elias, Jr., is, like him, a farmer in Augusta. He has five children, viz.:

Esther, 1855.

Lyman, 1860.

Francis, 1863.

Lettie, 1868.

Albert, 1869.

Thomas A., third son of Elias, was born about 1830. He married Emma —, and in 1878 removed to Hill County, Texas, where he died two years later, leaving three sons, viz.:

**Thomas, Jr., 1873.**

**William, 1876.**

**Walter, 1877.**

Roger, Jr., sixth son of Roger of Geneseo, left four children, viz., Pierpont and John, who reside in Utah; Robert, who died early, and Almira, who resides in California.

Thomas (1803-1879), youngest son of Roger and Esther Avery Orton, married Irene Heath, by whom he had four children, viz., Lucy, Agnes, Edward, and Esther.

This finishes the account of the descendants of Deacon Thomas Orton of Tyringham to date, through Dr. Thomas, as far as my information goes. In the lists that have been given there are wide gaps, as all will see, in which room occurs for extended family lines that have now no representation here. A proper examination of Tables I. and VI. will set the facts thus far presented in their proper relations.

**(b) THROUGH JOHN (1717) OF TYRINGHAM.**

It will be remembered that the great family of John of Tyringham, brother of Deacon Thomas, has been already followed as far as his grandchildren; or, in other words, through the sixth generation from Thomas of Windsor. I have the names of eleven grandsons and eight grand-daughters on my lists, with the descendants of two sons, if any, to be heard from, viz., Thomas (1746) and William 1756.

John (1742), oldest son of John of Tyringham, left two sons, Samuel, of Bennington, Vermont (1763), and Solomon, of Luzerne, New York (1764-1852). Some facts pertaining to them I have already given. I am now to follow the line of their descendants.

## DESCENDANTS OF SAMUEL OF BENNINGTON.

Samuel (1763) resided for a time in Bennington, and afterwards in Fairfield, Vermont, but some impulse seems to have been working in this branch of the family, pushing them steadily to the northward. His grandfather, John of Tyringham, leaving his old home, established himself first in Shaftsbury, in southern Vermont, and died in Fairfield, upon the northern border. The grandson, Samuel, left Vermont and moved into Canada in 1801, settling in Cumberland, on the Ottawa River, where his fourth son, Samuel, Jr., was born, in 1807. His youngest son, John, was born in 1812, in Ottawa City, to which Cumberland is adjacent.

Table VII. shows the line of descent through John (1742). I will briefly review the facts in their proper order.

Oliver, the oldest son, was born in Bennington, Vermont, in 1794. He was taken when a child, by his father, into Canada, and in his later years resided at East Hawkesbury. Some of his sons live in Bangor, Franklin County, New York (Brushton P. O.). According to one record, Oliver married Rebecca Tuttle; according to another he married Margaret Tutthill, of Brockville. I incline to the belief that the latter is correct. After the death of his first wife, he married Mary Hay, of Aberdeen, Scotland. By his first marriage he had a large family. The names and residences of seven sons are herewith given:

Samuel, East Hawkesbury, Ontario.

Levi, Bangor, New York (Brushton P. O.).

George W., Wisconsin.

Joel, Bangor, New York (Brushton P. O.).

Gardner, Bangor, New York (Brushton P. O.).

Oliver H., Toronto, Canada.

Ranold (may be the son of second wife).

Oliver H. resides in Toronto, Canada. He has one son, George W., who, after graduating from the University of Toronto, pursued post-graduate studies in the University of Pennsylvania. He was distinguished in his university course by almost equal success in scholarship and athletics. In the latter field he held five championships at one time (College Athletics of the United States), an unparalleled record. He was one of the representatives of the New York Athletic Club in the recent contest with the London Athletic Club. (1895.)

The later descendants of the families that I have just named have not been furnished, but there would be, without doubt, a large number of Ortons to be added here if the data were in hand.

Henry, second son of Samuel of Bennington, was born in Bennington, in 1798. He appears to have remained all his life in Cumberland, Ontario, to which place he was taken when three years old, and which was his father's home in his later years. Henry married Mary Olmstead and left six sons, whose homes are supposed to be in Cumberland. Their names are as follows: Phineas Greene, Marquis, John, Nathan, Heber, William.

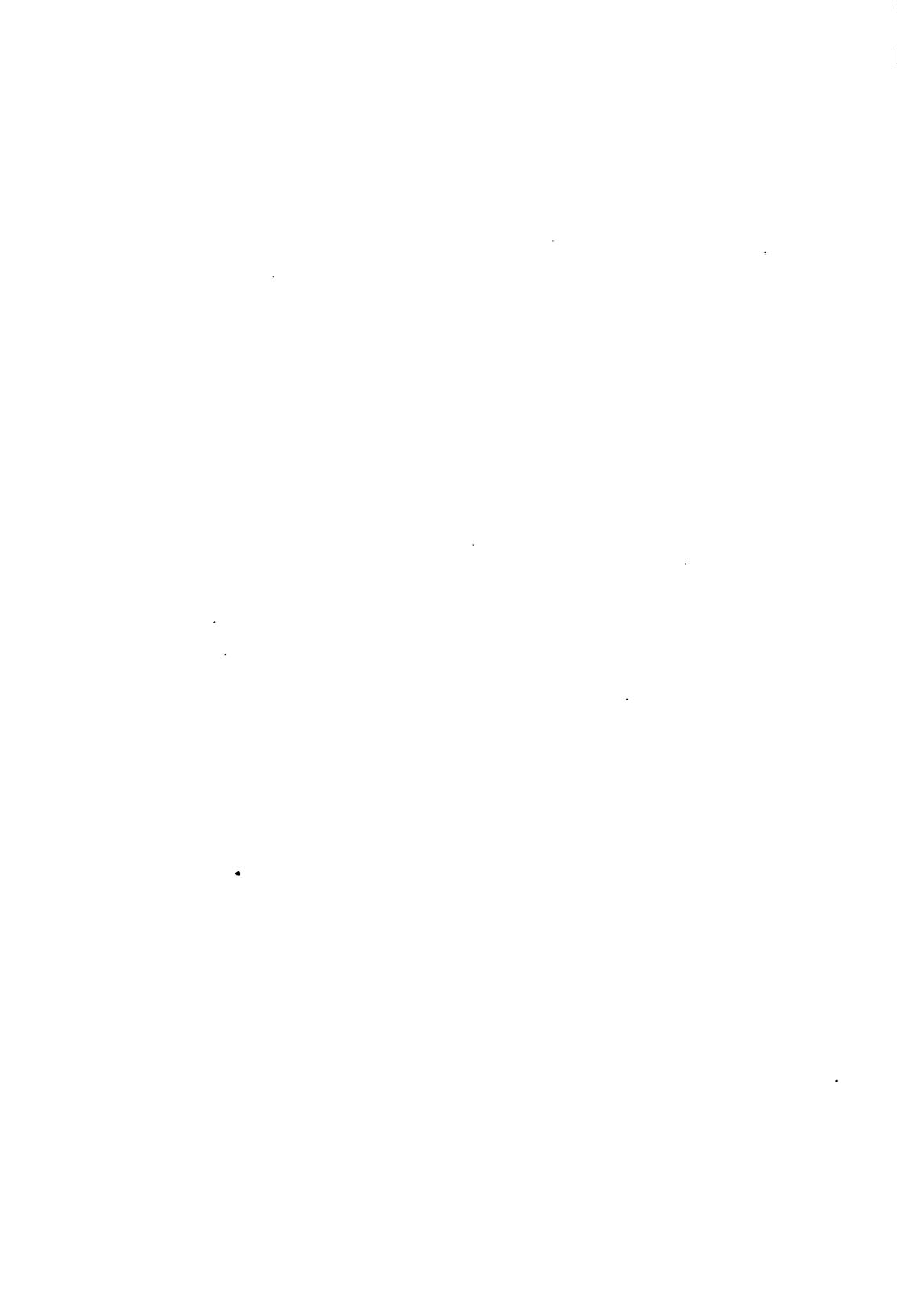
Nathan Greene, the third son of Samuel of Bennington, was born in Bennington, in 1800, but remained in Canada, to which he was carried in his infancy, up to 1874, when he removed to Oregon. He married Margaret McCann, by whom the sons and daughters named below were born to him:

Eliza, Mrs. Doolittle, Cleveland, Ohio. Died July 1895.

William H., Sandusky, Ohio. Died in 1893.

## Table VII.

V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.
John .... 1742 Little Falls, N. Y.	Samuel .... 1763 Bennington and Fairfield, Vt., and Cumberland and Winchester, Ont. M.—Meriba Greene.	Oliver .... 1794 Henry. .... 1798 M.—Mary Olmstead Cumberland, Ont.	Samuel ..... 1885 Winchester, Ont. Levi, Bangor, N. Y. Geo. W., Wisconsin. Joel, Bangor, N. Y. Gardner, Bangor, N. Y. Oliver H., Toronto, Ont. Ranold.
		Nathan G. .... 1800 M.—Margaret Mc- Cann. Washington, 1874	Phineas G. Marquis. John. Nathan. Heber. William.
		Samuel .... 1807 M.—Mary Newton. Canada.	Eliza—Mrs. Doolittle. Wm. H. Nath. S. Mrs. Smiley. John Neilson. Jane—Mrs. Ellis. Frances A.—Mrs. Miller.
		John ..... 1812 Ottawa, O. M.—Martha Lough.	John. Marquis. Alvin. William. Henry. Samuel. Nathan. Jesse. Jefferson.
		Solomon, Jr., ..... 1796-1891	John. Samuel. Nathan.
		Philander. .... 1802-1866 M.—Betsey Nimer-	Edgar ..... 1835 William ..... 1838 Wallace ..... 1838 Edson W ..... 1841 Reuel W ..... 1845
	Solomon.... 1764-1852 Luzerne, N. Y.	Zenas .... 1806-1846 M.—Ameranca Tin- ney.	Joel ..... 1833-1857 Benjamin ..... 1841-1867 Harmon ..... 1845-1872
		Luther M. .... 1819-1859	Darius S. (M. D.), North- ampton, N. Y. Stephen H. (Hon.), Weeping Water, Nebr.
		William .... 1822-1851 Hiram .... 1824-1827	



Nathan S., Oregon.

Mrs. Smiley, Kalamazoo, Mich.

John N., Oregon.

Jane, Mrs. Ellis, San Francisco.

Frances A., Mrs. Miller, Spring City, Tennessee.

William H., the oldest son, married Olive M. Papineau, by whom he had the following children:

William Franklin, 1856. Cleveland, Ohio.

Ida, 1857. Cleveland, Ohio

Arthur G., 1867. Sandusky, Ohio.

Leonora, 1862. Sandusky, Ohio. Mrs. Theodore Taubert.

Olive M., 1871. Sandusky, Ohio.

Nellie, 1875. Sandusky, Ohio.

Samuel, Jr., fourth son of Samuel of Bennington, was born in Cumberland, Ontario, in 1807. He married May Newton and had a large family, including eight sons—John, Marquis, Alvin, William, Henry, Samuel, Nathan, George Jefferson.

John, the oldest of these sons, married Lavonia Emerson and has five sons, viz., John, Frederick, Charles, Herbert, Irvin.

Marquis, the second son, has no children.

Alvin married first Lizzie Farrington, and second Sarah J. Orton. He has two sons, George and Samuel. William married Ellen Bigelow and has two sons, George Elmer and William Bigelow. Henry has no children. Samuel, sixth son, married Meriba Dunning and has six sons—Howard, Gardner, Alpheus, Herbert, Adna, and John. Princeton, Minnesota, and other points in Mille Lacs County, of that

State, are the center of their present occupation. The Ortons make a notable part of the entire population of some neighborhoods. Nathan, seventh son, married Meriba Orton and has four sons—Milton, Levi, Price, Herbert Lorraine. George Jefferson, the youngest son, married Addie McCue and has two sons, Jesse and George Jefferson, Jr.

John, the fifth and youngest son of Samuel of Bennington, was born in Ottawa City, Ontario, married Martha Lough and left three sons, John, Samuel, and Nathan. I think this family remains, for the most part, in Canada.

#### DESCENDANTS OF SOLOMON OF LUZERNE.

Solomon (1764-1852) lived in Luzerne, Warren County, New York. The name of his wife has not come down to us. He left six sons, the records of two of whom have been furnished by Wallace Orton, of Williamstown, Massachusetts. The names of the children are as follows:

Solomon, Jr., 1796-1891.

Mrs. Benjamin Ogden, 1798-1892.

Huldah, 1799-1848. Mrs. Aden Stone.

Rhoda, 1800-1859. Mrs. Alpha Stone, Defiance, Ohio.

Zenas, 1806-1861.

Philander, 1806-1866.

Luther M., 1819-1859.

William, 1822-1851.

Hiram, 1824-1857.

Zenas (1806-1861) had a family of eight children, including three sons, but most were swept away in early life, and there is but a single Orton in this entire family that appears in the ninth generation, viz., William, a grandson of Zenas and son of Harmon.

Philander, the second son of Solomon, was born in Luzerne, in 1806. He lived, for part of his life, at least, in Blackington, Massachusetts, and died there in 1866, leaving ten children, viz.:

- Olive, 1829. M. Joseph C. Place.
- Fannie, 1831. M. Willard W. Whitney.
- Eunice, 1833.
- Edgar, 1833. M. Rachel Dean.
- Amoranda, 1837. M. Lyman Ingraham.
- William, 1838. M. Catharine Spencer.
- Wallace, 1838. M. Maria Norton. M., second, Julia A. Taft.
- Edson W., 1841. M. Lucy Wallace.
- Reuel N., 1845. M. Jeannette R. Jenkins.
- Roxana, 1847-1888. M. William H. Benjamin.

The Orton blood derived from this stock is found in at least thirty children of the sons and daughters named above, seven of whom carry on the Orton name, which is further represented by two in the tenth generation in this line from Thomas of Windsor.

Walter E. Orton, son of Wallace and Julia Taft Orton, is a promising student in Williams College.

Luther M., third son of Solomon, was born at Luzerne, March 31, 1819. He grew up there, and, in November, 1839, married Sarah A. Ward, of Warrensburg. After his marriage he lived for a few years at Fairhaven, Vermont, but in 1844 returned to New York, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying at North Broadalbin in 1859, when but forty years old. Six children were born to him, four of whom are still living, viz.:

Darius S. (M. D.), January 7, 1841. Northampton, New York.

Stephen W. (Hon.), June 2, 1844. Weeping Water, Nebraska.

Matilda J., May 22, 1846. Mrs. Shay, Millbrook, Michigan.

Chauncey M., October 11, 1851. Carthage, New York.

The two older sons, Darius and Stephen, each served in the Union Armies in the War of the Rebellion, Darius enlisting in the Tenth New York Cavalry in July, 1862, and Stephen in Battery F, Thirteenth New York Heavy Artillery, in January, 1863. Both were honorably discharged at the end of the war in 1865.

Darius S. began reading medicine as soon as, or before, the war closed. In 1865 he took a course of lectures in the Medical College of Georgetown, D. C. In 1866, he attended lectures at the Eclectic Medical College of Philadelphia, and in 1867 he obtained the degree of M. D. from the Medical College of Albany, New York. He entered on the practice of his profession in the same year at Northampton, New York, where he still resides. In December, 1868, he married Anna Austin, of Union Mills, New York, and five children have been born to them, viz., Percy, George, Anna, Van Zandt, Zenas, all of whom reside in Northampton.

Stephen W., second son of Luther M., was born in Hampton, New York, June 2, 1844. At the age of sixteen he began a course of study in an academy, famous at the time, in Claverack, New York. He continued there for three years, leaving his studies to enlist in the Thirteenth New York Heavy Artillery. He remained in the army till the war ended, in 1865. In 1867 he set out for the West, reach-

ing Omaha in July of that year. In the fall of the same year he pre-empted a tract of government land in Elmwood Precinct, Cass County, thirty to forty miles south of Omaha. In 1868 he married Sarah A. Burrows, of Bellevue, Nebraska. He established his home on the land he had taken up, but divided his time between farming, teaching, and other lines of public service. In 1881 he left his farm and removed to Weeping Water, the capital of Cass County, where he engaged in the drug business, in which he still continues. In 1894 Mr. Orton was elected to the Nebraska Legislature on the Republican ticket from the Eighth Representative District, consisting of Cass and Otoe Counties. He is still in the prime of life and vigor. He has three children, as follows, viz:

Mary L., January 29, 1871.

Alice M., November 23, 1873-February 26, 1886.

Chauncey S., July 9, 1880.

Mary L. graduated at one of the excellent normal schools of Nebraska, and is now employed as a teacher in the public schools of Weeping Water, and Chauncey is pursuing his studies in the same schools.

Matilda J., oldest living daughter of Luther M., was born May 22, 1846, at Hampton, New York. In 1864 she married Michael Shay and now resides at Millbrook, Michigan. She has one child, a daughter.

Chauncey S., youngest son of Luther M., born October 11, 1851, removed to Glen's Fall's, when reaching maturity. He married there, in 1874, Ella Warren, of the same place and has had five children, of whom four are sons. Of the latter, three are living, viz., William, 1875; Herbert, 1877; Roy, 1881.

Chauncey, 1841, is now residing in Carthage, Jefferson County, New York.

Of the descendants of Solomon, Jr., William and Hiram, other sons of Solomon, I have found no records.

#### DESCENDANTS OF ICHABOD, (1754)

I come next to the grandsons and great-grandsons of Rev. Ichabod Orton, or, in other words, to the seventh and eighth generations from Thomas of Windsor in this line.

A list of the descendants of Ichabod is shown in Table VIII. His oldest son, Myron (1784-1873), was born and reared in Brookfield, New York, and settled in Cambria, as already reported. He studied medicine, but never entered on the active practice of his profession, devoting himself to farming as his vocation instead. He married Mary Hoit. His family, born and brought up in Cambria, consisted of ten children, two sons and eight daughters, named below:

Maria Lucia, 1816-1838.  
Heman Hoit, 1818-1838.  
Clarissa, 1819. Mrs. Sunner Burns.  
Martha B., 1821. Mrs. Thomas Root.  
John B., 1822.  
Gates, 1824-1826.  
Mary, 1826-1883. Mrs. William O. Rogers.  
Lois, 1828. Mrs. Albert Latta.  
Myron, August 14, 1831.  
Marilla, August 14, 1831. Mrs. John Carl.  
Maria Lucia, 1840-1853.

This family is one of marked intelligence and refinement. Most of them reside in Niagara County, New York, except as hereafter noted. I will give a brief record of each member, except those that died in early life.





Clarissa, the oldest daughter that reached maturity, married, in 1839, Sumner Burns and bore him three children, viz.:

Heman Hoit, 1842. M. Laura A. Root; 2d, Helen Aplington.

Romeo G., 1843. M. Sabina L. Mabon.

Mary C., 1849. Mrs. Horace L. Pinney.

Martha B., second daughter, married, in 1847, Thomas Root and five children resulted from this union, as follows:

Elias, 1848. M. Caroline Boughton.

Mary, 1850. Mrs. Gilbert Duncan.

Emma, 1853.

Minnie, 1856. Mrs. Irving Burns.

Frank M., 1860.

One of the sons, Elias I think, is a lawyer in good practice in Tonawanda, New York, and Emma, a sister finds employment in his office. Charles S. Orton, son of Myron 2d, is a partner in the firm.

John B., 1822, married, 1850, Sarah C. Mitchell, and removed to Branch County, Michigan, where he has since resided. He and his two older sons are engaged in farming. He has had a large family, named below:

Clarissa B., 1851-1853.

Mary A., 1853-1878.

Eva M., 1855. Mrs. John C. Mallory.

Harlow S., 1858. M. Ada L. Kelsey.

Julius W., 1862. M. Elida Cornell.

John B., 1867.

Jesse F., 1870.

The two older sons are farmers, residing near Hillsdale, Michigan, as already noted. John B. is a young man of fine business qualifications and experience, and has been, for many years, engaged in the book business in New York and elsewhere. He is at present employed in one of the largest book firms of Cleveland. Jesse F. is a graduate of Michigan University. He pursued post-graduate studies in Cornell University, and was then recalled to a fellowship in political science in his Alma Mater in 1895, where he is still engaged. He was married in 1895. He is counted a young man of fine talent and promise.

I am indebted to the two last-named for the details of the family history herewith presented.

Coming to the next in order of the children of Myron, 1784, we find Mary, 1826. She married William O. Rogers in 1853 and bore to him four children, viz.:

Fanny M., 1855-1858.

Myron A., 1857. M. Lizzie Eggleston in 1890.

William H., 1859.

Charles S., 1865. M. Bertha M. Hitzel in 1893.

Mrs. Rogers died in 1883.

Lois, 1828, the next daughter, married, in 1845 or 1846, Albert Latta. They have had nine children, as follows:

Willard A., 1848. M. Augusta Miller in 1882.

Myron O., 1850. M. Alice M. Goddard in 1878.

Susan F., 1852. Mrs. William F. Montague.

Delacy A., 1854. M. Aletha M. Bell in 1882.

Walter L., 1856. M. Mina Jones in 1880.

Addison J., 1859. M. Luella B. Washburn in 1892.

Mary P., 1861-1863.

Clara A., 1863.

Blanche, 1874.

Myron, Jr., 1831, youngest son of Myron, 1784, married, in 1857, Betsey C. Mudge, by whom he had one daughter. In 1871 he married for his second wife, S. Armenia Wilcox, who has borne him two sons. The names of the children are as follows:

Mary A., 1860. Mrs. W. S. Fowler.

Charles S., 1862.

Frank C.

Charles S. is, as already noted, a lawyer of the firm of Root & Orton, Tonawanda, New York. In 1885 he married Estelle V. Timothy. Frank C. Resides in Pekin, Niagara County, with his father.

Marilla, twin sister of Myron, married, in 1879, John Carl and has no children.

The next family to be entered in our records is that of Harlow N., M. D. (1785-1838). This family constitutes, perhaps, the most brilliant group in our entire record. Dr. Harlow, the son of a Baptist minister, married Grace, daughter of Rev. Nathaniel Marsh, another Baptist minister. She is represented as a lovely woman, with great ambition for her sons, encouraging them and aiding them by heroic efforts in their behalf to secure the best available education. Somehow, from this union three sons of exceptional talent were born. Some say the sons inherited their ability from their mother, but there was decided talent in the other line, as well, as is shown in the fact that all the sons of Rev. Ichabod's family entered professional life. The truth is, we know but very little of the laws of heredity. They are, for the most part, past finding out by us. All that we can say is, that there was in this case a happy blending of good qualities, physical and mental, so that talent beyond the measure of either line by itself considered, ap-

pears as the result. The children of Dr. Harlow and Grace Marsh Orton were four in number, three sons and one daughter:

Myron H., 1810-1863. Madison, Wisconsin.  
John J., 1812-1885. Milwaukee, Wisconsin.  
Harlow S., 1817-1895. Madison, Wisconsin.  
Diana, 1814. Mrs. J. J. Mason, Cresson, Iowa.

I will review the three sons in the order named.

Myron H. was born April 4, 1810, in Brookfield, New York. In 1817 his father removed to Cambria, Niagara County, New York, which was being rapidly taken up by a most desirable class of immigrants, including representatives of the best families of New England. His brother, Myron, was also established in the same town. Dr. Harlow remained in New York for only a few years. Somewhere between 1820 and 1830 he came to Bucyrus, Ohio. His son, Myron, who followed him here, was already interested in securing a collegiate education. He taught school and at the same time carried on private study to fit himself for college. He soon found his way to Kenyon College, the noble institution that Bishop Chase, uncle of Chief Justice Chase, had recently founded in the wilderness of Ohio. I have not learned whether Myron graduated here. But about 1830 we find him teaching in an academy at Somerset, Ohio, and at the same time studying law with his uncle, John B. Orton, of the last-named town. He was admitted to the bar of Ohio in 1833, at Somerset, and began practice here; but after two years he removed to Laporte, Indiana. Here he turned, temporarily, to another occupation, and became editor and publisher of the Laporte Herald. It is worthy of record that Wilbur S. Storey, the famous editor of Chicago, was employed as a printer in

the Herald office at this time. Mr. Orton represented La porte County in the State Legislature in 1847-8. In 1849 he sought a larger field, and removed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and in 1853 he removed to Madison, Wisconsin, where he died March 19, 1863. The illness to which he succumbed, while still in the prime of his powers, was congestion of the lungs. I obtained the facts as to his early life, above stated, mainly from a letter which he wrote to a friend, describing the successive stages and struggles through which he had passed. Though dying comparatively young, he made a profound impression upon the community in which he resided. A friend of his, Judge A. B. Braley, characterized him as "a remarkable man, of exalted talent and marked peculiarities; a close student and well versed in the fundamental principles of law." He described him as a magnetic and eloquent speaker, able to take a humorous, pathetic, or sarcastic tone, as the occasion might require. His language was choice, his voice full and sonorous, his manner graceful and impressive. He was as well adapted to popular oratory as to addressing judge and jury. Judge Braley described him as a great favorite in social life, being genial, witty, and ready in repartee. He was a lover of poetry and of Shakespeare, in particular, for whom he entertained an almost idolatrous reverence. He was able to make quotations from this author appropriate to all occasions. His relations to his parents seem to have been unusually affectionate and confidential, as his long and frequent letters testified. Judge Braley further declares that Mr. Orton had an implicit belief in God and immortality. He took an active part in politics, passing from the Whig to the Republican party, and in the opening scenes of the War of the Rebellion, he took the deepest interest, and spoke with great force and effect to large popular audiences.

The resolutions passed by the Madison bar on the occasion of his untimely death, express the highest appreciation of his character and attainments, and are couched in terms such as could be properly applied only to a leading member.

While residing in Laporte, Indiana, Mr. Orton married Mary A., daughter of General John Brown, an honored pioneer of northern Indiana. By this union three daughters were born to them, viz.:

Cordelia, 1842. Mrs. A. R. Jones, Madison, Wisconsin.

Diana C., 1843. Mrs. Calvin L. Brown, Big Timber, Montana.

Floretta A., 1851. Mrs. W. C. Williams, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mrs. Brown is the mother of five children, three sons and two daughters, viz., Mona, Shirley, Clarke, Sally, Miles.

Mrs. Williams has two sons and two daughters, viz., Myron Orton, Mabel, Grace, Clarence.

All that I have learned goes to show that Myron H. Orton was a brilliant and highly-gifted man, born to be a leader and certain to have been advanced in public recognition and favor, had his life been spared. As it was, he was cut down just as the greatest opportunities of his generation were opening before him.

For the substance of the facts pertaining to him, I am indebted to papers furnished by his daughter, Mrs. W. C. Williams, of Milwaukee.

The second son of Dr. Harlow N. and Grace Marsh Orton, John J., was born in Brookfield, New York, April 25, 1812. When five years old his parents removed to Cambria. At eleven years of age he was employed as a clerk in a country store in Albion, Orleans County, New York. Boy

that he was, he showed such aptitude for business that, at the age of eighteen, he was taken into the firm as a partner. He proved himself thrifty and sagacious. His manners were gracious and pleasant; he was liked by every one and he established in the community a reputation for unusual mathematical ability. All these factors presently led to his appointment as a commissioner to wind up the affairs of the Orleans County Bank, an institution that failed at this time. The service was one of prominence and responsibility. From all this it would have seemed that John J. Orton's career was already fixed; that he would be certain to go on in the paths of commercial activity which had opened so easily and with so good promise before him. But during all this time a deeper purpose held possession of him. He was determined to secure a collegiate education, so as to stand on equal terms with any that he should meet on the stage of life. While seemingly engrossed with the several lines of business already described, he was steadily preparing himself, as best he could, to enter Yale College. He was twenty-four years old before he completed this preparation, and at the last he deemed it necessary to spend a few months, at least, in a fitting school. He studied, during part of the year 1836, at Burr Seminary, Middlebury, Vermont, and entered Yale College, I judge, soon thereafter. While in college he was esteemed for his talent and beloved because of his gracious manners, and he was regarded by his classmates with unusual respect because of his maturity and the successful business experience which he had already acquired. He graduated with honor, read law, and was admitted to the bar in New Haven, in May, 1847. But the money which he had previously accumulated had been consumed in his education, and he was not willing to sit down and wait for legal business to come to his hands. He

therefore re-entered the commercial world, and finding good opportunities, temporarily took up the lumber trade, and while thus engaged, resided in Buffalo, from 1847 to 1849. His ventures were, as usual, successful, and he seemed now ready to take up his chosen profession, the law. His two brothers were at that time residing in Milwaukee, and he visited them there in 1849. He saw the opportunity for investment in that thriving city, and remained there. For the next two or three years he devoted himself principally to business interests. During 1852 and 1853, he made investments in the city and vicinity that eventually resulted in the accumulation of a large fortune. Among the properties in which he became interested was an important water power near the city. But as soon as he had made the purchase, a fierce opposition was begun by other parties, who had interest in or designs upon the same property. A tremendous legal struggle, that embraced nearly a hundred separate suits in court, and that lasted through thirty-one years, followed. The questions connected therewith occupied a large place, for the life of a generation, in Wisconsin courts of all grades. Mr. Orton was his own lawyer, and the legal struggle in defense of his own rights is probably the greatest in which he was ever engaged. Though opposed by the strongest lawyers of the State, he finally won in every court. He is said to have been especially strong in his recognition and statement of first principles. He was possessed of a resolute and indomitable will and knew no such word as fail.

He acquired large wealth, was charitable in the use of it, defended in courts the rights of the poor and lowly, and was honored and beloved in the community where he lived. He married, late in life, Lucinda Keith, by whom he had two daughters, Amy, 1869, Mrs. W. H. Watkins, New Or-

leans, Louisiana; Eva, 1871, Mrs. Walker Buckner, Jr. Mrs. Watkins has two sons, Orton and Robert, and a daughter, Grace. Mrs. Lucinda K., widow of John J. Orton, still lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In his early life, Mr. Orton took part in various kinds of public work, united with the Presbyterian Church, was interested in music, etc., but a serious disappointment in his plans for domestic life soon after his graduation seems to have worked a great transformation in his disposition and mental tastes, at least, for a number of years. He rallied from the depression after a time, but his friends say that he was never quite his old self again.

I have gathered the facts given above from a sketch published, with the approval of his family, in the "Magazine of Western History," for December, 1887, Cleveland, Ohio.

Harlow S. Orton, LL. D., third son of Dr. Harlow N. and Grace Marsh Orton, was born in Brookfield, New York, November 23, 1817. He graduated at Madison University, Hamilton, New York, in 1836, when he was nineteen years of age. He was employed for the next year (1836-7) in teaching in Paris, Kentucky, and here he began the study of law. Removing thereafter to Laporte, Indiana, where his brother, Myron H., was established, he completed his legal studies, was admitted to the bar in 1838 and began practice in the Northern Indiana Circuit. While in the practice of his profession at Valparaiso, Indiana, in 1839, he met Elizabeth Cheney, of Maryland, and after a brief acquaintance they were married.

In 1840 he was an enthusiastic supporter of General Harrison, the Whig candidate for the presidency, and made eighty speeches in this interest in the States of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. He

distinguished himself by his eloquence and was known in the campaign as the "Hoosier orator."

In 1843 he was appointed Probate Judge of Porter County, Indiana, by the governor of the State. In 1847 he removed to Milwaukee, Wis., and entered on the practice of his profession. In 1852 he accepted the office of private secretary and legal adviser of Governor L. J. Farwell, and removed to Madison, where he continued to reside till his death. In 1854, 1869, and 1871, he represented the Madison district in the State Legislature, of which he was, in each session, a leading and influential member. Up to the dissolution of the Whig party in 1854, he acted with it. After that date, he was counted as an independent Democrat. In 1859 he was elected judge of the Ninth Judicial District, and was re-elected without opposition. After six years' service in this capacity, he preferred to re-enter the active practice of his profession, which he did in 1865. In 1876 he was appointed one of the revisers of the statutes of the State. In 1877 he was elected mayor of Madison. From 1869 to 1874 he was dean of the Law School of the University and gave instruction in several departments of law during the same time. In 1870 the university conferred on him the degree of LL. D. In 1878 he was elected, on a non-partisan ticket, as a member of the Supreme Court of the State, and continued in this office to his death. By seniority he became chief justice in 1894.

Judge Orton took a deep interest in history, literature, and art. He was active in the organization of the State Historical Society, and was its vice president for many years, having declined the presidency.

He died in Madison, July 4, 1895, in the seventy-eighth year of his age.

Of the seventy-eight years of Judge Orton's life, fifty-seven were devoted to his profession, thirty-four years being given to general practice and twenty-three to judicial service.



HON. HARLOW S. ORTON.

As an advocate, he ranked with the foremost. His name was associated for many years with those of M. H. Carpenter and E. G. Ryan, the three being counted as easily the most brilliant and successful pleaders of the Wisconsin bar. As a winner of verdicts, Judge Orton had but few equals, and no superior, in the Wisconsin courts of his day. He was called to take part in many of the great cases that have been before the State Courts during the last forty years, and in many of these cases, the laboring oar was entrusted to his hands. His successes lay more in his addresses to court and jury than in the management of the trial and examination of witnesses. "His sparkling wit, his biting sarcasm, his keen sense of the ludi-

crous, his positive conviction, his powers of invective, his personal magnetism, his commanding voice, and his ability to make every fact and circumstance appear favorable to his client, all conspired to secure the attention of his hearers the moment he rose in the court room or elsewhere."

As a judge, he was pains-taking and thorough in his examination of cases, and prompt and clear in his decisions. He was by nature more of an advocate than a judge, and his great decisions are probably those into which his feelings were thrown as well as his convictions. Many of these decisions are said to be models of lucid and cogent argumentation. He took great pride in their form, as well as their substance. They are embodied in forty-seven volumes of Wisconsin Reports, and will remain as a perpetual monument to his knowledge of the law and his purpose to make it the best possible expression of what is right and just. They will influence the administration of Wisconsin courts for all time to come.

As a man, Judge Orton had much of the magnetic quality. He was genial and cordial in manner to a marked degree, and at the same time was constant and sincere in his friendships. In temper and feeling he was genuinely democratic, as opposed to aristocratic. His sympathies were prompt and generous. Against every form of injustice or oppression his indignation was wont to flame out in unmistakable terms.

Such qualities as these, associated with a fine personal presence, and with a frank and engaging address, brought to him the love and admiration of all who knew him.

Like all men made on so large a scale, the great questions as to the end and meaning of life were often in his mind, and in his conversation he frequently turned to these themes. Especially during the lingering illness which pre-

ceded his death, he was much occupied with the patriarch's problem, "If a man die, shall he live again?"

In his domestic life he was highly favored. The wife of his youth, whom he had cherished with unlimited devotion for more than fifty years, soothed his last hours with her loving ministrations, and upon them he seemed absolutely dependent.

Six children were born to Judge and Mrs. Orton, two of whom, Odin and Oretta, died in infancy.

Orlando B., August 12, 1843. Indianapolis, Indiana.

Otho H., March 12, 1845. Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Ora C., November 30, 1846. Mrs. Henry Coe, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Harlow N., July 31, 1858. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Orlando studied law, graduating from the Albany Law School in 1864. Otho H. also studied law, completing his course in the Law School of Wisconsin University, in 1871. Harlow N., the youngest son, studied medicine, taking his degree in the Rush Medical College, of Chicago, in 1879.

The daughter, Mrs. Coe, takes a lively interest in the records of the Orton family. Her aged mother is spending the last years of her life in Mrs. Coe's home.

The two older sons are lawyers in active practice; the third is a practicing physician.

In my characterization of Judge Orton I have made free use of the memorial addresses of Chief Justice Cassoday and Judge E. W. Keyes, delivered before the Supreme Court, at Madison, September 2, 1895. I have failed to do adequate justice to our great kinsman. Both of these eminent men use stronger terms than I have ventured to employ.

Diana, the only daughter of Dr. Harlow N. 1st, was born in 1814. She married Hon. J. J. Mason, and is now living at Cresson, Iowa.

The third son of Rev. Ichabod Orton was John B. (1790-1843). As already stated, he was born in Brookfield, New York, studied law and established himself in practice in Somerset, Perry County, Ohio, where he died in 1843. One, at least, of his more famous nephews studied law in his office. He married Matilda Reynolds (1809-1879), and left two sons, Julius T. (1830-1858), and Alfred Reynolds (1832).

Soon after the death of her husband in 1843, Mrs. Orton removed to Monticello, Indiana. Julius was a young man of excellent gifts and promise. He was a student in Wabash College at the time of his death, which resulted from the falling of a horse which he was riding.

Alfred R. still resides at Monticello. He attended Wabash College and acquired there the profession of civil engineering, which he has followed all his life. He held the office of county surveyor for several years.

He married Addie C. Parker, of Monticello, and has a son and daughter. The son, Rev. Julius T. 2d (October 16, 1869), is a graduate of Wabash College and of Chicago Theological Seminary. He is now pastor of a Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. He married, in 1893, Mary Eliza Hills.

The daughter, Ora C., was born October 16, 1863. She resides in Monticello.

So far as I know, Rev. Julius T. 2d is the first and only descendant of Rev. Ichabod to enter the ministerial profession, while lawyers and physicians abound in this line.

It would be a pleasure to trace the family lines of the daughters of this same household, but I have no information bearing on their history.

## DESCENDANTS OF GIDEON, 1759.

Gideon, fifth son of John, 1717, was born in 1759. In early life he removed to Fairfield, Vermont. He married Phoebe Oatman, who died June 19, 1806. His father, John Orton, passed the last days of his life in Gideon's home, dying there April 3, 1793. So far as I have learned, this family has remained, for the most part, in Vermont. To Gideon the following children were born:

Mary, January 14, 1791.  
Aaron H., March 18, 1793-1872.  
Lavinia.  
Sarah, 1798.  
Truman, August 9, 1800-June 10, 1877.  
Charlotte, February 10, 1803.

Mary married John Perry and left four children, viz., Gideon, John, Elizabeth, and Silas. Some of them reside at Newport, Vermont. Aaron H. married, February 28, 1819, Mary (Polly) Hall. Three children were born to him, viz., Merrill S., June 27, 1822 (he married Sophia Bailey); Mary H., August 23, 1825 (Mrs. A. P. Webster); Sarah P., May, 1830 (Mrs. R. P. Blake).

Truman, the second son, married Elvira Gleason, and had five children, viz., Cordelia, Diana, Truman, Dorcas, Byron.

## DESCENDANTS OF OLIVER, 1763.

Oliver, sixth son of John, 1717, married Dorcas Squire (June 4, 1774-October 7, 1859). The members of this household have also mainly remained in Vermont. Six children were born to Oliver, viz.:

Olive, May 16, 1797-1866.

Lyman S., April 7, 1799-1870.

Harriet, September 22, 1802-1803.

Elizabeth J., August, 1804.

William S., June 4, 1809-September 22, 1867.

John B., September 28, 1811-September 27, 1885.

William S. married, September 4, 1836, Anzoletta Loveland, who died March 12, 1890. To them three sons were born, Lyman S., Gardner G., and Herman. The last-named died in childhood.

Lyman S. was born June 19, 1837. He was married January 17, 1861, to Ellen M. Stevens, who has borne him six sons and one daughter. The family home is at North Walden, Vermont. The names of the children are given herewith:

Omer E., December 30, 1863.

William L., November 22, 1865-November 29, 1868.

Laura A., June 14, 1867-July 11, 1869.

Charles L., May 22, 1869.

Gardner L., August 16, 1872.

Ernest W., September 4, 1875.

Clayton R., April 1, 1885.

Charles L., the third son, is a graduate of the University of Vermont, of the class of 1890. Since his graduation he has spent most of his time in teaching. He has already achieved a marked success in this profession. He is at present engaged as principal of the Academy at Limington, Maine. To his genealogical interest and painstaking, I am indebted for all the details pertaining to the several branches of the family of John (1717) which I am now giving.

Gardner G., second son of William S., grandson of Oliver, the sixth son of John (1717), born December 16, 1840, married Maria Hunt, who died August 31, 1863, within a year or two after her marriage. He married a second wife, September 8, 1875, viz., Electa W. Allen, who was born March 6, 1852. By her he had three children, William A., February 28, 1877; Alice L., May 22, 1879; and Mabel L., September 15, 1881.

John B., youngest son of Oliver, was born September 28, 1811, and died September 27, 1885. On February 28, 1842, he married Adaline S. Loveland, who was born January 30, 1818. Their six children are named as follows:

Myron, January 3, 1843-June 8, 1865.

Abbie, September 11, 1844.

Edward F., April 18, 1847.

Julia A., December 25, 1848-November 10, 1874.

Mrs. C. H. Cobb.

Phoebe D., July 14, 1851. Mrs. D. B. Smith.

Thaddeus L., October 1, 1844.

Edward F., second son of John B., married, November 21, 1876, Clara E. Stuart, born May 2, 1853. They have three children, viz., George L., April 19, 1878; Cleon B., February 9, 1888; Margaret A., April 28, 1891.

Thaddeus L., youngest son of John B., married, January 24, 1880, Estella M. Grow, who was born December 3, 1859. Five sons have been born to them, four of whom are living. All of these younger children are in the eighth generation from Thomas of Windsor. The list is as follows:

Ralph A., September 12, 1882.

Glenn G., January 5, 1886-June 17, 1887.

Roy G., July 10, 1888.

Reuel J., February 16, 1891.

Reed L., October 25, 1893.

This completes the account of the descendants of Oliver.

**DESCENDANTS OF AMOS, (1768.)**

Of Amos, 1768, I have already given some account. I will here add what few facts I have been able to gather as to his descendants. He left, as will be remembered, a number of children, and among them two sons, Lorenzo, 1798, and Amos, 3d, 1809.

Amos, 3d, was born in Hadley Falls, Saratoga County, New York, June 7, 1809. He grew up in that region and married at Queensbury, New York, Emily R. Prosser (April 26, 1811-March 14, 1863). He resided for a time at Fort Ann, New York, but when thirty years old, he removed with his family to Oakland County, Michigan, and established himself on a farm about ten miles north of Pontiac, and about thirty miles a little west of north of Detroit. The township in which he settled was named after him, Orton; and the little village which has been gathered about the point where fifty years ago he built a grist mill, a saw mill, and a store, is now known as Ortonville. It is the post-office of Orton Township, Oakland County. He was the leading man in the community, and it was but just and right that his name should be commemorated in connection with its settlement in the way above indicated. He was universally respected and trusted among his neighbors. His word was as good as his bond.

Nor was his interest altogether confined to the business concerns of the community. He had well-settled convictions on theological and religious questions, as well. He espoused the Universalist creed and became a preacher of that faith in the region where he lived, *viz.*, in the counties

of Genesee, Macomb, Livingston, and Oakland. He devoted ten entire years to the work of the ministry. He died in Ortonville, March 19, 1888, when seventy-nine years old.

His two older children were born in Fort Ann, Washington County, New York. Four others were born after he moved to Michigan. The list is as follows:

Laura, February 19, 1835. Mrs. Wolfe, Davison Station, Genesee County, Michigan.

Elhanan W., March 30, 1838. Petoskey, Michigan.

Lizzie M., March 25, 1839. Mrs. Powers, Chadron, Nebraska.

Celestia J., October 30, 1840. Mrs. Algoe, Thayer, Michigan.

Celoska B., October 30, 1840. Mrs. Pine, Sumner, Michigan.

J. Murray, March 8, 1851. Winona, Minnesota.

My information in regard to this branch comes mainly from E. W. Orton, of Petoskey. He informs me that all the members of the family have native mechanical talent, that the men are large and strong, that light complexion and blue eyes characterize the entire stock.

E. W. Orton married Hannah M. Cummings, by whom he had one son, William C., who was born in 1874. Mrs. Orton died in 1888.

Of Lorenzo, brother of Amos, third, I have but little to say. He lived in Oakland County, Michigan, for many years and left four children, viz., Caroline (Mrs. George C. Bancroft); William H., Washington, D. C.; Sarah E., and Almira. William H. was a soldier in the War of the Rebellion, and has, within the last few years, lost his sight.

This completes the account of the Ortons of the fifth and later generations in the line of John of Tyringham (John, 1717).

## CHAPTER IV.

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### DESCENDANTS OF JOHN ORTON OF WOODBURY, CONN.

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#### SECTION I.

##### FOURTH GENERATION OF ORTONS IN THE LINE OF JOHN OF WOODBURY.

In Table III., Chapter II., I have given the names of the descendants of John Orton of Woodbury, through three generations. I will devote this chapter to an account of this branch of the family, which makes, numerically, but a small figure beside the families of his brothers, Thomas and Samuel. Of the migration of John (1692) from Farmington to Woodbury in 1717, and of his settling there, I have given all the facts that are available. Our knowledge of his wife ends with the fact that her Christian name was Mary. The date of the marriage was 1724, or earlier. John joined the church in Woodbury in 1726, and Mary, his wife, in the succeeding year. There were five children born to them, two sons and three daughters.

Sarah, 1725-1749. M. John Mitchell in 1748.

John, October 5, 1729-1808.

Elizabeth, November 16, 1734.

Mary, February 22, 1741 (?). M. Nathan Judson.

Samuel, December 8, 1741-1819.

Of the daughters, I can give no further account. John, the oldest of the two sons of John (1692), was born in 1729, and occupied the tracts of land which his father had held before him. His lands lay on the west side of the town center. In 1763 he married Abigail Leavenworth, who died in 1780. In 1782 he married Patience Warner. By his first wife he had three daughters, and by his second wife two sons. I give the list herewith.

Sarah, April 29, 1765. M. —— Ball. Removed to Canada.

Mary Ann, July 23, 1768. M. Eli Smith, Orange, Connecticut.

Esther, August 2, 1777. M. Hollister Judson, Woodbury.

John, December 2, 1782-1838. Woodbury.

Truman, June 16, 1784-1881. Woodbury.

Dr. Samuel, the second son of John (1692), was born and reared in Woodbury. At an early age he began the study of medicine with Dr. Joseph Perry, the leading physician of the town. After completing his studies in the practical way of his time, but evidently recognizing the need and advantage of larger knowledge, he entered Yale College, from which he received the degree of M. D. in 1765. I think that he is the first of the Orton name to receive a degree from Yale. Returning to Woodbury, Dr. Samuel established himself in the practice of his profession, and for a full half century was busily employed in ministering to the comfort and relief of his townsmen and neighbors. Many young men acquired a knowledge of the profession of medicine from study in his office, and in this list five of his own sons are to be counted. He was methodical, exact, and thrifty in his business management, as I judge from the books in which his

accounts are set down, and of the property which he acquired. I have had an opportunity of examining his account books, through the kindness of the Woodbury representatives of the family. He bought numerous tracts of land in and around Woodbury, uniting some of them into small farms. Some of these are still known as the Orton lands.

He was one of the five leading contributors to the building of the Episcopal Church edifice in Woodbury, in 1778, and from a letter of his that I have seen, I judge that he was not at all in sympathy with the rigorous Calvinistic theology that was dominant in Connecticut at that time and that carried things with so high a hand.. In other words, Dr. Orton was distinctly liberal in his religious belief and in advance of his day and generation.

I have been somewhat surprised to find no allusions to contemporary events occurring in any documents which he has left us. One would think that the turmoil and excitement of the Revolutionary War, in which his early manhood was passed, would show itself in some form in every section of New England life, but I have failed to find the slightest reference in his books and papers. That he was a true patriot and thoroughly trusted by his neighbors, is evident from the fact that in 1787, when the new Constitution of the United States was submitted to the people of the several States for ratification, Dr. Orton was one of the two representatives sent by Woodbury to the State convention for this purpose, and which met at Hartford, January 3, 1788. His colleague from Woodbury was Hon. Daniel Sherman, one of the founders of the great Sherman family, to which the country owes so much for illustrious service in peace and war. This representative office was one of the most important that the town has ever had to give, and it is pleasant to

find such an expression of esteem for, and confidence in, Dr. Orton. He married Ruth Judson (1749-1828), possibly a descendant of Mrs. Mary O. Judson, who came to Woodbury in 1699, and who left two sons there, Isaac and Daniel. The Judson family has always been one of the leading families of the town.

From this marriage six sons and three daughters were born, named as follows:

Samuel, May 3, 1773-July 19, 1775.

John, August 31, 1774-1860. Sherman, Connecticut.

Samuel, August 23, 1776-1850. Bridgewater, Connecticut.

Elizabeth, April 27, 1780-1866. Woodbury, Connecticut.

Henry Tudor, August 17, 1782-1864. Washington, New York.

David Judson, March 31, 1784-1864. Woodbury, Connecticut.

Mary, December 7, 1785. M. Ebenezer Finch.

James, May 10, 1787-1869. Caldwell, New Jersey.

Sarah, May 1, 1791-1876. Woodbury, Connecticut.

The history of these will be given in the succeeding section.

## SECTION II.

### FIFTH AND SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS IN THE LINE OF JOHN OF WOODBURY.

#### (a) DESCENDANTS OF JOHN (1729.)

The sons of John (1729) have been named in the preceding section, viz., John (1782) and Truman (1784). Both were born and reared in Woodbury, and remained there all their lives. They were both farmers and both had their resi-

dences at the town center. John, born December 6, 1782, married Betsey Eliza Carpenter (1791-1870), of Woodbury. Their children were:

**Mary A., January 13, 1817.**

**John, February 18, 1819-October 30, 1822.**

**Betsey, January 23, 1824.**

**Sarah J., November 2, 1826-October 17, 1828.**

It will be noted that the Orton name is doomed to drop out altogether from this line. Mary A. married Frederick Martin in 1837. He died in 1867, but his widow survived him. She and her sister still lead active and useful lives, despite the burdens of age. There were five children born to Frederick and Mary A. Martin, viz.:

**Caroline E., December 28, 1840.**

**Mary Orton, April 12, 1842.**

**Harriet E., July 26, 1846-September 3, 1872.**

**John Orton, March 30, 1849.**

**Frederick S., September 1, 1851-April 7, 1871.**

In the eighth generation along this line there are two heirs of Orton blood, but the surname, as already remarked, has been lost in this line of descent. John O. Martin married, in 1875, Mary C. Upson, of Waterbury. Their children are, Clifford, October 28, 1879, and Emily H., July 7, 1882.

For the records of the line of John Orton (1782) I am indebted to the careful and painstaking service of Miss Mary Orton Martin, of Woodbury.

**(b) DESCENDANTS OF TRUMAN, (1784 - 1881.)**

Truman Orton lived in Woodbury all of his long life, dying there in the ninety-seventh year of his age. In 1815, he married Maria M. Curtis (commonly known in the family

as Patty Maria), and to them seven children were born. Four sons and one daughter grew to maturity, whose names are as follows:

James S., November 26, 1816-July 4, 1892.

Harriet, September 8, 1818. Mrs. Samuel Vance.

Frederick C., 1823-March 2, 1880.

Henry B., 1835-1869.

Cornelius T., July 31, 1837.

Walter J., April 20, 1839-October 7, 1864.

James S. grew up in Woodbury, but in 1844 he removed to Geneseo, Livingston County, New York. In 1843 he married Emily Stanley, originally of Goshen, Connecticut, but later of Mt. Morris, New York. From 1849 to 1852 he served as deputy county clerk. He was then elected to the principal office and served three years. In 1856 he established a private bank, but was soon after made cashier of the Genesee Valley National Bank, holding this position until 1887, when he was made president. This bank is largely owned and controlled by the Wadsworth family and Mr. Orton's long connection with it is the best possible evidence of the confidence reposed in him by this rich and powerful interest. In his financial management he showed himself sagacious, prudent, and far-seeing.

He was a steady and consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and was for many years an office bearer in it, as elder and trustee. He was also a trustee of the Wadsworth Public Library and was the executor of General Wadsworth's will.

He was an honored citizen of Livingston County for nearly half a century. He died on our national anniversary, July 4, 1892. He left no children.

His sister, Harriet, married Samuel Vance, of Groveland, in the same county, in 1854. Three daughters were born to them, Eva M. (1855), Mary J. (1857), and Harriet O. (1859). Mary and Harriet died in August, 1863, but a few days apart. Eva M. married Ira H. Hilliard in 1879, but she lived but a month after her marriage.

Frederick C., second son of Truman, was never married. He spent his whole life in Woodbury. He died March 2, 1880, aged fifty-seven years.

Henry B., the third son, removed to New York City and became engaged in the hardware business there. In 1857 he married Margaret L. Huntley. In 1867 he died, leaving two children, Emma A. (April, 1852), and Harry B. (April 1, 1856). In 1880 Emma married Jeremiah Smith. In 1881 Harry married Fanny M. Spencer. He resides at Livonia Station, Livingston County, New York, and has five children in the eighth generation of Ortons, viz.:

Ella M., January 21, 1882.

Blanche M., February 9, 1884.

Henry J., March 17, 1886.

Pearl E., June 8, 1889.

Frederick C., October 16, 1891.

Cornelius T. has been engaged most of his life in business in New York City, but residing in Brooklyn. He has been with one business firm for many years and is one of its most valued employes. In 1859 he married Mary A. Loweree, by whom he has three sons, viz.:

Charles A., October 14, 1858. M. Mary L. Merrill (1881).

Walter J., June 11, 1868.

Clarence Tudor, September 14, 1873.

Walter J., youngest son of Truman, grew up in Woodbury and married Jane Judson, of the same town in 1856 (?). He enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, was made sergeant of his company, and died October 7, 1864, from the effect of a gunshot wound, received at the battle of Winchester, Virginia. He left two children, Florence L., born February 27, 1858, and Truman, born May 18, 1861. Florence married Edward S. Farrar in 1878, and resides in Chicago. Truman resides in Elmwood, Peoria County, Illinois.

(c) DESCENDANTS OF DR. SAMUEL.

The children of Dr. Samuel and Ruth Judson Orton, eight in number, were named in the preceding section. Dr. Samuel's five sons, as there noted, all studied medicine with their father, and all became practicing physicians.

Dr. John established himself in Sherman, Connecticut. He married Abigail DeForest, and left one daughter, Mary E. (Mrs. Stewart).

Dr. Samuel, Jr., removed to Bridgewater, Connecticut, where he was the leading physician for many years. He had two children, a son, Samuel D., who entered on the profession of law, but died at a comparatively early age, leaving no children. The daughter, Susan, married a Methodist clergyman named Collins.

Dr. Henry Tudor Orton removed to Washington, Dutchess County, New York, and spent a long and active life in the practice of his profession. He accumulated a large fortune, for his time, and, leaving no children, his estate was divided among his brothers and sisters. It is interesting to note the reintroduction of the Tudor name in two instances in this family.

Dr. David Judson Orton remained in Woodbury, leading a somewhat less active life than his brothers. I pre-

sume that his name, David Judson, is that of his mother's father, but I have no certain information. He was never married.

Dr. James Orton established himself in Caldwell, New Jersey, about 1810, where he became a prominent and influential citizen. He came on horseback from Connecticut, bringing his worldly wealth in a pair of saddle-bags. He married, in 1814, Hester Maria, daughter of Nathaniel Douglas, a representative of an old and honored family of New Jersey, and one of the leading business men of the community. Five children were born to Dr. James in Caldwell, three daughters, Sarah, Mary, and Julia, and two sons, James Douglas and Samuel Henry. Two of the daughters, Sarah and Mary, died in early life. Julia lived to a good age in her father's family and survived him for a number of years.

James Douglas Orton was born December 19, 1822. When he was thirteen years old he was sent to Holt and Sargent's school, at Montclair, by far the best school of the neighborhood. It was four miles from his home to the school, and this distance he walked twice a day, summer and winter, for four years. He made good progress in his studies, and would gladly have gone forward to a collegiate course, but he felt that his father's condition did not warrant this, and consequently, at the age of seventeen, he set about finding a place for himself in the business world. After unsuccessful applications in various quarters, he at last secured a position in the State Bank of Newark, through the aid of his uncle, Marcus B. Douglas, who was connected with this institution. The position which James secured was at the foot of the ladder, but a chance to make his way was all that he needed. He was advanced from grade to grade, and at the end of three years was made book-keeper

of the Newark Banking Company. After serving in this capacity for several years, he was called to New York to serve as receiving teller in the North River Bank. In 1849 he was again promoted by being made paying teller of the Ocean Bank of New York. He remained here but a short time, however, for, in the same year he was recalled to Newark to serve as cashier of the State Bank, the same institution in which he had begun work ten years before. He remained in this responsible position for the next fourteen years and then took a leading part in organizing the Second National Bank of Newark, becoming president of the new institution, a position which he held from that day to the present time.



JAMES DOUGLAS ORTON, ESQ.

Mr. Orton has been prominently identified with the varied interests of Newark for more than fifty years. He is widely known and widely honored and revered for his long life of successful business and unstained integrity.

On January 14, 1846, he was married to his cousin, Hester Maria, daughter of Marcus B. Douglas, of Newark. Six children have been born to them, as follows:

Anna, October 11, 1876-February 11, 1851.

Lucius F., September 26, 1848-March 6, 1850.

Mary Adele, June 16, 1851. Mrs. Samuel Lord, New York.

James Douglas, Jr., December 25, 1852. M. Elizabeth K. Boylan.

Marcus B. D., May 16, 1858-1861.

Helen, July 5, 1862. Mrs. Frank Bliss Colton, East Orange, New Jersey.

It will be seen that three are now living.

On the 14th of January last (1896), the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Orton was celebrated. The occasion was a happy one in every respect, but there were two features in particular which added much to the enjoyment of all, viz., a poem written for the celebration by Rev. William James Tilley, Rector of Christ Church, Newark, reviewing some of the more striking historic events that have taken place in the half century just passed, and a souvenir, in the shape of a beautiful little volume, entitled, "Pen Pictures," prepared and published by Mrs. Helen Orton Colton, of East Orange. The volume is devoted to the family history for the fifty years of Mr. and Mrs. Orton's wedded life, with many interesting facts bearing on the genealogy of both families, the Ortons and the Douglases. The idea of a souvenir in such a form for the occasion was admirable, and the execution of the work left nothing to be desired. The volume shows literary skill on every page. The dedication to Dr. James Orton, inspired by the recollections of her childhood, is especially pleasing and graceful.

James D., Jr., married Elizabeth K. Boylan, February 7, 1882, and has three sons, viz., Benjamin Douglas, July 17, 1883; Henry B., February 6, 1885, and Raymond, July 5, 1892.

Samuel Henry, second son of Dr. James, was born in September, 1829. He grew up in Caldwell and was, in due time, sent to the same excellent school which his brother had attended before him, but his earliest training in Latin he received from the private tuition of a learned clergyman of the neighborhood, Rev. Dr. Wilson, of Fairfield. All through his life Samuel possessed an unusual share of linguistic ability. He spoke French and German fluently, and could also use Spanish and Italian to some extent.

Early in life he decided to adopt his father's profession, and his studies were largely devoted to this end. He pursued his professional studies in the medical department of the University of the City of New York, and completed them in Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He began practice in Tarrytown, New York.

He married Mary Nash, of Norwalk, Connecticut, on August 4, 1852. Since Dr. Orton's death, Mrs. Orton has returned to her old home. No children were born to them.

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1862, Dr. Orton was appointed assistant surgeon in the regular army. He was first assigned to duty under Dr. Janeway in the the army hospital of Newark, but was soon promoted by being placed in charge of St. James Hospital, in New Orleans. After remaining here for several years, he was transferred to the McDougal Hospital, Fort Schuyler, New York. In all of this service he displayed great energy and efficiency. In fact, he possessed marked executive ability, which was recognized by his superiors in office, as was shown by the conferring of the rank and title of brevet-major upon him on the

occasion of his resignation of his office at the close of the war.

He was, however, retained in the service of the government by being made examining surgeon for recruits in the city of New York, an office which he retained until 1891. His health began to fail about this time, and he sought relief from all imperative duties. He died in New York on April 26, 1892.



RESIDENCE OF DR. SAMUEL ORTON, WOODBURY, CONN.

The old Woodbury home of Dr. Samuel Orton is now occupied by Mrs. Mary A. (Orton) Martin and her sister. The room which was the original office, and in which the five sons, and other young men besides, learned their profession, is now one of the living rooms of the family. The farm lands connected with the house are a part of the tract originally occupied by John Orton, 1692, and have thus been under Orton ownership for more than two hundred years.

Near the house is a private burying ground, in which are the graves of Dr. Samuel and many of his descendants. A comely and appropriate monument was erected by funds supplied for the purpose by the estate of Dr. Henry T. Orton.

Two of the daughters of Dr. Samuel, viz., Elizabeth and Sarah, remained unmarried and made their home in Woodbury through long and useful lives, Elizabeth dying at the age of eighty-six and Sarah at the age of eighty-four.

Miss Sarah Orton was greatly beloved in Woodbury for her kindness to the poor and her readiness to help them, particularly in sickness. She knew as much of medical practice as most physicians, and her presence in the sick-room was helpful and comforting to an unusual degree. The weather was never so bad as to prevent her from going out on errands of mercy. Her death was universally lamented in the town.

Mrs. Colton, in the "Pen Pictures," noticed on a preceding page, speaks thus of her: "My great-aunt, Sarah, I remember perfectly. Black hair, in spite of her seventy odd years, piercing dark eyes, and a soft wrinkled cheek, with a faint, pretty color, like a winter apple."

Mary married, in 1812, Ebenezer Finch, and bore four children, viz., Sarah, Mary O., Henry, Julia A. Sarah married Rev. Jonathan Brace, of Litchfield, and afterwards of Milford, and left two daughters, one of whom is Mrs. Emily Pattou, of Yonkers, and the other, Mrs. Lucy Chittenden, of New York City. Mary O. married Benjamin Dewell. Julia A. married George P. Allen, of Woodbury, and died in Florida, February 3, 1883.

There are thus seen to be four Ortons in the male line in the seventh generation through Truman of Woodbury, not one in the line of John of Woodbury, and but one in the

line of Dr. Samuel, making five male representatives in the seventh generation through John (1692), as against several scores of such representatives in the line of each of his brothers, Thomas and Samuel. The grounds for this disparity are past finding out. It is generally conceded that, as wealth and culture increase in a community, the size of the families, that is, the number of children in one household, decreases; but such an explanation scarcely seems available in the cases here cited.

## CHAPTER V.

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### DESCENDANTS OF CAPT. SAMUEL ORTON OF LITCHFIELD.

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#### SECTION I.

##### FOURTH GENERATION OF ORTONS IN THE LINE OF SAMUEL.

Of the migration of Captain Samuel, youngest son of John, from Farmington to Woodbury, in 1718, and from Woodbury to Litchfield in 1720, of his purchase and occupation of a large tract of land at the south end of Bantam Lake, of the home that he built there, of his marriage to Abigail, daughter of Gideon Smedley, and of the family that was born to him on Orton Hill, I have already written. I am now to trace the history and fortunes of his five sons. Reference to Table IV. will make plain many of the details of the present chapter.

###### SAMUEL 2d.

Samuel, Jr. (1724-1810), was born on Orton Hill, inherited the northern and older part of his father's farm, and lived on it eighty-six years, dying there March 31, 1810. The land that he occupied has been since divided among several neighboring farmers. Bradford Root owned a part at one time, and James Morgan is a more recent owner of another

part. To the old residents of Litchfield, the location of the farm will be best described as opposite to William Ray's. Samuel married Ruth, daughter of Joseph Mason, of Hartford. She died November 10, 1798. The late Mrs. Ruth Cowles, of Morris, the best, by far, of the recent authorities on the local history of the town, wrote me a few years since that she remembered Mrs. Orton well; that she was a woman of beautiful character and gracious ways, and that she was beloved by all who knew her. Fifteen children were born to them:

Levi, November 6, 1750-May 1, 1776.  
Abigail, April 19, 1752-May 6, 1771.  
Gideon, August 26, 1753-September 9, 1753.  
Gideon, July 14, 1754-September 29, 1778.  
Huldah, April 9, 1758.  
Samuel, December 27, 1759.  
Miranda, April 16, 1761.  
Esther, August 22, 1762.  
John, March 24, 1764.  
Araunah, December 17, 1765-June 21, 1766.  
Damaris, July 15, 1767.  
Araunah, June 24, 1769.  
Abigail, March 26, 1771.  
Miles, March 21, 1774-1814.  
Olive, May 12, 1777-September 14, 1778.

#### HEZEKIAH.

Hezekiah (1727), the second son, took another part of his father's land. He settled on the hill southwest of Orton Hill. His farm afterwards passed out of the hands of his family and came to be known as the Whittlesey farm. Part

of it is now occupied as the infirmary farm of the township. Hezekiah built a frame dwelling on his farm, and a small portion of the original structure is said, by Mrs. Cowles, to be included in the buildings that are still standing here. It is perhaps the oldest dwelling in Morris.

Hezekiah married Anna Sedgwick in 1745, and nine children were born to them here:

Hezekiah, Jr., September, 1745-May 25, 1770. Williamstown, New York.

Eliada, May 29, 1748. Parish, New York.

Sedgwick, August 11, 1750.

Anne, December 1, 1752.

Eleanor, July 28, 1756.

Azariah, September 25, 1757. Williamstown, New York.

Darius, May 18, 1760. Williamstown, New York.

Rhoda, May 21, 1763.

Olive, March 17, 1765.

Dennis, 1766.

A large number of Ortons of the present day trace their descent to Hezekiah.

#### AZARIAH.

Azariah (1729-1774), third son of Captain Samuel, removed from Litchfield to Tyringham, Massachusetts, where, as will be remembered, a colony of Ortons was already established. He married Mary Davis (1738-1831), and three sons and seven daughters were born to them. One of the most distinguished branches of the family is derived from this stock. From the fact that the younger sons left Litchfield for a newer country, it would appear that the farm of

Captain Samuel had been divided between the two older sons, above named. The three sons of Azariah are named below:

Azariah, Jr., 1767-1854. M. Abigail (Polly) Jackson.

Reuben.

Darius, 1770-1838. M. Vashti Jackson.

#### LEMUEL.

Lemuel, the fifth son (1735-1787), lived in Litchfield. He married Mary Lurvey. To Lemuel and Mary Orton ten children were born:

Lemuel, Jr., March 5, 1761-September 29, 1831.  
Worthington, Ohio.

Mary, January 11, 1762.

Gideon, December 31, 1768-July 12, 1846. Eden,  
New York.

James.

Sarah, December 14, 1765. M. Jonathan Mason, Jr.

John, December 4, 1770.

William, June 22, 1772.

Anne, January 20, 1776.

Ruanna, March 22, 1779.

Marianne, March 3, 1784. M. Loudon Webster.

#### JOHN.

Lieutenant John, youngest son of Captain Samuel, removed in his twentieth year to Sharon, establishing himself there in 1764. He bought a farm, located on Mill Brook, one and a half miles south of the center of the town, and which had been formerly owned by John Davis. His farm

has remained in the hands of his descendants almost to our own day. It is now in the possession of Mr. George R. Woodward. The site of the log house which Lieutenant John built and occupied, can still be identified. But at a later date he erected a frame dwelling nearer the highway, which was replaced, in its turn, by the present farm house, which was built by Joseph Orton seventy-five years ago. The last house is but a few feet distant from the frame dwelling built by Lieutenant John. The farm, on its eastern border, abuts against Ellsworth Mountain, along the foot of which is a beautiful stream, Mill Brook, which flows to the southward. The site of the present house is on a hill of drift clay and gravel, seventy-five feet above the valley. The place can be further identified as adjoining, on its northern boundary, the fine property of Dr. Deming.

Lieutenant John married Remember, daughter of Deacon Joseph and Mrs. Sarah Landers, of Sharon, and several children were born to them in the old log house in the valley. The probable date of his marriage is 1765-7. The oldest child that we know was born in 1768. I have the names of four sons, two of whom died in early life:

Joseph, 1768.  
Luther, 1774.  
Calvin, 1778-1783.  
Augustus, 1779-1783.

One mile beyond the old Orton homestead, to the west and south, is an old and somewhat neglected burying ground, in which several members of the family were laid. The Orton and Landers families were buried on adjacent lots in the central portion of the ground. The gravestones, ornamented after the fashion of a hundred years ago, have retained part of their inscriptions in fairly legible condition,

but cannot hold them distinctly for many more decades. Both Lieutenant John and his wife died before their time, Mrs. Orton in the forty-third year of her age and her husband in his forty-first year. On his tombstone the inscription reads as follows: "In memory of Lieutenant John Orton, who departed this life April 9, 1785, aged forty-one years." Below the name the following verse was cut in the stone, but it will scarcely be legible much longer:

"In prime of life he yields his breath,  
While weeping friends lament his death;  
But death must yield, his dust restore,  
Where friends shall meet, but weep no more."

The stone that marks Mrs. Orton's grave is thus inscribed: "Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Remember Orton, consort of Mr. John Orton, and daughter of Deacon and Mrs. Sarah Landers, who died May 18, 1779."

Two smaller stones mark the graves of Calvin and Augustus, who died in the fourth and fifth years of their lives, respectively. The inscriptions are alike, with the exception of their names. They read as follows: "Sacred to the memory of —, son of Lieutenant John and Mrs. Remember Orton." The dates connected with the inscriptions are not free from uncertainty.

Lieutenant John's name does not appear in the military records of Connecticut, but it is well known that there are many cases of honorable Revolutionary service that never found record. The war broke out when John Orton was about thirty years of age, and all the men of western New England of that age and under, were, at one time or another, in the service of the country. The inscriptions on the grave-stones, repeated three times, renders it probable, in my judgment, that John was a Revolutionary soldier. The title,

"lieutenant," would scarcely have been given just after the close of the war unless it stood for actual service.

It is a pleasure to me to believe that John Orton was in the Revolutionary Army, because he was the only son of Captain Samuel that was fairly due there. Samuel, the oldest son, was, at the breaking out of the war, fifty-two years old; Hezekiah was forty-nine; Azariah, forty-seven, and Lemuel, forty-five years old. As I will show in the succeeding section, one or more sons from each of these families were engaged in the military service of the country in the war.

Of Jemima, the only daughter of Captain Samuel, we only know that she was born in 1740, and that she married Captain Archibald McNeil, Jr. No more desirable family connection than this was open to the most ambitious young woman of Litchfield in 1760.

## SECTION II.

### FIFTH GENERATION OF ORTONS IN THE LINE OF SAMUEL OF LITCHFIELD.

For the sake of convenience, in tracing the several lines of descent, the names of the fifth generation have been already given in connection with the records of their parents, of the fourth generation. The five sons of Captain Samuel, whose records I have been able to trace, left, or rather had born to them, in the fifth generation, at least forty-two children, of whom one-half, twenty-one, were sons.

#### (a) SAMUEL.

The large family of Samuel, oldest son of Captain Samuel, comes first in review. Of his fifteen children, eight were sons, but only six of them reached man's estate, and two of

these died early. These were Levi (1750-1776) and Gideon (1754-1778). Samuel (1759), John (1764), Araunah (1769), and Miles (1775), were the others.

All that we know of Gideon is, that he was in the army when twenty-three years of age. He saw service in the Hudson Valley in the summer of 1777. He was a member of Captain Amos Barns's company, which belonged to Colonel Noadiah Hooker's regiment, which was in the brigade of General Erastus Wolcott. Gideon died at Litchfield the next year. Some fatality seems to have marked the lives of several of the older children of Samuel, Jr. From the list already given, it will be seen that Levi died at the age of twenty-six, Abigail at the age of nineteen, and Gideon at the age of twenty-four.

Samuel, 3d (1759), performed the same amount of military service in 1777 that has been recorded above for his brother, Gideon. In 1778 he was again in the army for three months, in defense of the Valley of the Hudson. In this campaign he was under Captain Joel Gillett, of Colonel Roger Enos's regiment. He was but eighteen years old when he entered on this service.

Samuel lived all his life in Litchfield County, and raised a family there, but of his children, I have the name of but a single one, viz., Edmund Orton, of Northeast, Pennsylvania. I fear that there is no probability that anything more can be learned in regard to this branch.

The next son was John (1764). He was but twelve years old when the war broke out, and a war record is, consequently, an impossibility in his case. It seems probable that John migrated, in his early life, a few miles to the northward of his father's home. At least he found a wife in the town of Goshen, in the person of Ruth Norton, a member of a well-known family. She brought a distinct vein of

talent into the Orton line. One of the foremost names in the family lists, viz., that of William Orton, president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, comes in among the descendants of John and Ruth. They had eight children, six daughters and two sons, as follows:

Clarissa, February 23, 1787.

Demas, June 25, 1788.

Betsey, January 10, 1790.

Polly, March 12, 1791.

Abigail, April 21, 1794.

Aurora G., June 22, 1796.

Horatio, November 2, 1798.

Ruth, March 3, 1802.

Araunah (1769), fourth son of Samuel, lived in Litchfield, about two miles south of the town center. The farm on which he lived is now known as the Harrison farm. The house that he occupied was situated nearly opposite to Charles Ensign's house, but not a vestige of it now remains. Araunah married Lois Gibbs in 1793. I think she was the daughter of Eliakim Gibbs, a soldier who died in the army in 1778. The children of Araunah and Lois were twelve in number, and are named below:

Irene G., October 13, 1795.

Esther R., December, 1796.

Rachel, September 18, 1798.

Ruth M., November 15, 1799.

Mary A., February 25, 1801.

James M., October 5, 1802. Utica, New York.

Elizabeth Morris, January 17, 1804.

Leman G., June 22, 1805.

Orrin A., November 25, 1806.

Lucy S., October 22, 1808.

Phoebe W., May 27, 1810.

Rhoda T., July, 1812.

I have not been able to follow any of this family.

Miles, the youngest son of Samuel and Ruth Mason Orton, was born on Orton Hill, March 21, 1774. He was reared in Litchfield, and in 1795, married Lydia, daughter of Eliakim Gibbs. She was born about 1770 and died October 10, 1852, at the residence of her son, Rev. Dr. Samuel G. Orton, in Ripley, New York. The Gibbs family, to which she belonged, was one of the best known and most numerous families of Litchfield, and especially of that part of the town known as the South Farms. Many members of it were distinguished for stentorian voices. A wag of the neighborhood declared that he could always tell when he came into the South Farms because he could hear some of the Gibbses "holler." The Gibbs voice has been an inheritance of at least three generations from Eliakim. Lydia's father was drafted into the Revolutionary Army in the winter of 1778. To prepare him better for the exposures of army life in winter, his wife undertook to knit a pair of long stockings for him that reached to the hips. He was to report at a station near by, probably Litchfield, on the evening of a certain day. His wife had set up all the night before working at the task, but did not finish it until the last day was far spent. The sun was sinking and he was obliged to take his departure. Lydia was five years old at the time. She had two sisters older than herself and a brother and sister younger. There was a long hill that her father had to ascend on his road to the appointed station, and wife and children were watching at the windows as he slowly made his way. As he

reached the top of the hill, his figure was outlined sharply against the evening sky. He stopped and gazed for some minutes at his home in the valley below, and then passed over the brow of the hill and was lost from the sight of the children. "That was the last I ever saw of my father," Lydia was wont to tell her grandchildren. He went into camp on Lake George, and in the course of a few weeks, died of that dreadful scourge of the Revolutionary Armies, the smallpox. His death occurred so soon after his entry upon the service that no pension could ever be obtained, and the household suffered privation and hardship from the withdrawal of their natural supporter and protector.

Miles Orton was an exceptionally companionable and popular young man, but he lacked the instinct of accumulation and thrift, which we generally associate with the New England, and particularly with the Connecticut character. He was about five feet seven inches in height, and was remarkably well proportioned. On the days when trials of strength and agility were in order on the village green, Miles was the recognized champion of the town. The records of some his feats of activity would put to shame many of our modern athletes. He died in 1813, when but thirty-six years old, leaving a family of eight children, as follows:

Samuel G., June 6, 1798-April 12, 1873. Sandusky, Ohio.

Miles M., June 4, 1799-1820.

William H., March 20, 1801-1842. Republic, Ohio.

Ruth E., March 19, 1803-1837 (?).

Elizabeth M., April 13, 1805. M. Hon. Levi Baxter. Jonesville, Michigan.

Abbie M., July, 1807.

Edward S., December 25, 1809. Probably died in 1830.

James. Died in infancy.

Of the daughters of Samuel 3d, I have no knowledge beyond their names. The record implies that five of them grew to womanhood.

(b) HEZEKIAH.

The family of Hezekiah, second son of Captain Samuel, has been already named. His oldest son, Hezekiah 2d (1745), married Phoebe Johnson in 1767, and set out forthwith for the frontiers of New York, as they were at that time considered. He was one of the pioneer settlers of Oswego County, New York, locating in Williamstown, about twenty-five miles due east of Lake Ontario. Twin sons, Hezekiah (3d) and Solomon, were born to him June 5, 1768, and a daughter, Phoebe, January 23, 1770. Solomon seems to have died in infancy. Hezekiah 2d died May 25, 1770, when but twenty-four years old, leaving a helpless family in the wilderness. Of his children, the only record that I find is, that Hezekiah (3d) married Hannah —, and had four children born to him, Sally (1790), Elizabeth (1792), Morgan (1794), and Phoebe (1800). Hezekiah died before his time, but he must have given a good account of the region to which he had come to the brothers that remained in the old home, for in due time two others of them found their way to the same region, as will hereafter appear.

The second son, Eliada, born May 29, 1748, grew up in Litchfield (South Farms), and in 1770 married Lucia Hungerford. When the Revolutionary War broke out, he enlisted in the army and was in service for a considerable time. For his services he received a pension from the government under the Congressional Act of 1818, and is reported

in the accompanying list as "a pensioner of Connecticut, residing in Vermont." As to his residence in Vermont I have no knowledge, but in any case it must have been of short duration, for in 1804, he removed to Parish, Oswego County, a town adjoining Williamstown on the west. Here he reared a family of children that were born before he left Connecticut. Their names follow below:

Lucia, June 29, 1772.  
Hosmer, December 26, 1773.  
Eliada, Jr., 1775-1860. Parish, New York.  
Zenas, 1777.  
Leman, 1779.

Sedgwick Orton, the third son of Hezekiah and Anna Sedgwick Orton, was born August 11, 1750. He remained in Litchfield, and does not appear to have had a Revolutionary record. Just at the outbreak of the war, in 1775, he married Sarah Tucker. His marriage took place about a month before the Battle of Bunker Hill, and to the invitations to enter the service of his country, he could probably give the scriptural answer, "I have married a wife and cannot come." Of the family of his wife I have no knowledge. Their children were as follows:

Heman, May 11, 1780-October 25, 1855. Litchfield  
(South Farms).  
Edmond.  
Harmon.  
Olive.  
Mary. M. James Webster.  
Daniel.

A considerable number of Ortons, descended from Sedgwick through his oldest son, Heman, are on record.

In regard to some of the other members of the family, I have not been able to obtain any facts whatever.

Azariah 2d, fourth son of Hezekiah, was born September 25, 1757. He served in the Revolutionary War with the Connecticut Continental troops, and received a pension from the government for such service. He is duly named in the Congressional List of Pensioners for 1834-5. He was at that time reported as seventy-five years of age, and as residing in Oneida County, New York. (Vol. II., p. 365.) In 1780 he married Sybil Cleveland, and in 1801 removed to Camden, Oneida County, New York, and after a few years to the adjoining town of Florence, where he died in 1835. His wife died in 1807.

To them were born eight children, viz.:

Dennis, November 7, 1781-1855. Shelby, Ohio.  
Sherman, April 17, 1783. Farmington, Illinois (?).  
Rhoda, April 17, 1786.  
Olive, November 10, 1788.  
Azariah. Farmington, Illinois (?).  
Anna.  
Nancy.  
Brainerd, 1804. Sterling, Illinois.

All were born in Connecticut, except the youngest son, Brainerd. A long list of Ortons can be traced to this line.

Darius, fifth son of Hezekiah, was also a Revolutionary soldier and pensioner, and as he served in the Connecticut militia, we are better able to follow his military record than that of his brother. He entered the service when but sixteen years old. In 1776 he served in Captain Smith's company, presumably in defense of the Hudson Valley. In 1777 he was in Captain Enos Barns's company, under Colonel Noadiah Hooker, whose headquarters were at Peekskill on the

Hudson. In 1778 he was in the same army, in the same service, and in Captain Joel Gillett's company. In 1780 he was enrolled in the Fifth Connecticut line. His name appears in Vol. II., p. 387, Congressional List of Pensioners, 1834-5.

I do not find the name of his wife, or the date of his marriage, but about the opening of the century, he, too, removed to Williamstown, New York, and some of his descendants are still living there on their ancestral acres. The greater number of his descendants, however, have emigrated to the Western States. The names of his children are as follows:

Truman.

Baruch.

Luna.

Ruth.

Hiram, 1811-1884. Ortonville, Iowa.

Darius, 1816.

All were born and reared in Williamstown, New York.

Of the youngest son, Dennis, born 1766, I have no further account. He was too young for the Revolutionary Army. His name was repeated in the next generation, as has already appeared in the list of his brother, Azariah's sons.

(c) AZARIAH.

I come next to the descendants of Azariah (1729), of the fourth generation, third son of Captain Samuel. As stated above, he removed to Tyringham, Massachusetts, somewhere about 1760.

His oldest son, Azariah, Jr., was born in Tyringham, in 1761, and was reared there. He inherited the lands which his father had cleared and occupied, and which are still, in part, at least, in the possession of his descendants. Though

but a lad of sixteen, he enlisted in the army in 1777, and was present, under General Gates, at the surrender of Burgoyne, at Saratoga. When he was twenty-seven years old, viz., in 1788, he did the best thing possible in marrying Abigail, sometimes called Polly, daughter of Colonel Giles Jackson, of Tyringham. Colonel Jackson was one of the most prominent and influential men of that part of the State. Mention has been made of him in another connection with the Orton family, on a previous page. Abigail Jackson Orton was her father's daughter, and was easily the leading woman of Tyringham, in all of its interests, social, educational, and religious. She had a striking face and figure, and the authority which she exercised became her well, and was readily acknowledged by her neighbors. She brought a fresh stock of energy and talent into the Orton line. Several of the most distinguished scholars of the family are found in the list of her descendants. Azariah lived to an extreme age, dying in 1854, at the age of ninety-three. His wife, born in 1768, died in 1851. They left five sons, viz.:

Azariah Giles, 1789-1869. Lisle, New York.

Thomas Porter, 1794-1847.

Charles, 1791-1850.

Caleb Jackson, 1805-1850.

Sarah A., Tyringham.

John, 1811-1882.

Of the second son of Azariah (1729), viz., Reuben, I have no record except the name; but of the third son, Darius, May 26, 1770, I can give a brief account. He married Vashti Jackson, a younger daughter of Colonel Giles Jackson. She was born in 1771, and died September 15, 1803. Darius afterwards married Catharine Burghardt, who was born July 20, 1770, probably in central New York, and

died August 15, 1847. He removed to Center Lisle, Broome County, New York, and some of his descendants are still found in the same town and in the adjacent region. By his first wife he had four children, and by his second wife, six children. The list is found below:

Aurilla, August 23, 1792-1874. Alvada, Ohio.  
Polly, October 20, 1774.  
Darius, July 4, 1797-July 30, 1801.  
Vashti, December 9, 1799.  
Darius B., June 23, 1806-June 14, 1833.  
Azariah, May 30, 1807.  
Lambert, December 26, 1808. Center Lisle, New York.  
Albert, January 25, 1810.  
Catharine, September 3, 1812.  
Ann, September 14, 1815.

(d) LEMUEL.

I come next to the children of Lemuel, 1735, who married Mary Lurvey, and who resided in Litchfield. Their oldest son was Lemuel, Jr., who was born in 1762. He seems to have learned the shoemaker's trade, though he was a farmer in all his later life. At the age of fifteen, in 1777, he enlisted in the Revolutionary Army, and remained in the service to the close of the war. In his later years he received a pension for his service by the Congressional Act of 1818.

He belonged to Colonel Elisha Sheldon's Light Dragoons, which were recruited in 1777, in western Connecticut, and which were employed during the war along the Westchester front and in New Jersey, in constant and arduous service. In winter the troops were generally scat-

tered in small squads through the regions from which they were recruited, with the double object of defending the towns from British raids and of reducing the expense of maintenance of man and beast. The company in which Lemuel served seems to have been under the immediate command of Lieutenant (afterwards Colonel) Kirby, of Litchfield. Major Benjamin Tallmadge was one of the officers of the regiment. Lemuel was shot in the head on one occasion, but not entirely disabled. He was the Revolutionary hero of the Orton family, at least in the Litchfield branch. He brought back from the war a great stock of adventures and "hair-breadth 'scapes," the rehearsal of which, in after days, furnished the greatest delight to the youthful members of the family and of the community at large. One of his adventures, to the relation of which my father listened when a boy, runs as follows:

The squad of Light Horse to which he belonged was wintering, as usual, in southern Connecticut, and was kept on the qui vive in repelling British raids planned by the traitor Arnold. One evening, after hard service for several days, the command to which he was attached came to a large barnyard, at which it was deemed safe to stop for a night's rest. No British troops were known to be in the immediate vicinity, and the officer in charge felt a sense of security that proved to be unwarranted. He gave orders to unsaddle the horses, and allowed his men to make themselves comfortable in the hay-mow for a much-needed rest. Lemuel retired with the rest, but in an hour or two was waked by a vivid dream. He dreamed that a British troop was coming at full speed down the road which they had just left, and that he had only time to mount his horse and ride out as the enemy entered. The dream made such an impression on him that he could not go to sleep again, at once. He

got up from the hay-loft and went down to the yard where the horses were fastened. It was a typical New England winter night. The newly-fallen snow lay deep on the ground, covering everything that the eye could see with a mantle of white. The air was still and keen. The full moon rode high in the heavens, and what with its light and the reflecting surface of the snow, the night was almost like the day. He listened, but the only sounds to be heard were of the horses feeding from the racks to which they were fastened. He went out into the roadway, looked up and down, but nothing was to be seen to warrant the least suspicion or uneasiness. Ashamed of himself for giving heed to a dream, he went back to his place in the hay and dropped asleep once more, but presently was again awakened by a similar dream, more vivid, if anything, than the first. This time he aroused some of his comrades and told them his experience, but they only berated him for disturbing their sleep with such childish tales, but he was so much excited and disturbed that he could not rest. He went down to the yard again and repeated the examination that he had made before. The conditions were exactly as he had found them at first. But he was so impressed by the repetition of his dream that he examined the gates of the yard to see by what way he should escape if his dream should come true, and he also saddled and bridled his horse, a trusty black, of whose speed and endurance he had often made trial, and of which he was justly proud. He left him ready to mount at the shortest notice. Having thus quieted his mind, he again retired to rest and fell asleep once more. But from this he was presently awakened, not by a dream, but by the near approach of the enemy. A troop of British cavalry had followed the track of Lemuel's company all night and were now coming down the road at full gallop. He mounted his

trusty black and rode away, as he had planned, out of one gate while the advance line of the enemy was entering the other. He was hotly pursued for several miles. To the speed and endurance of his horse and to his perfect knowledge of the country he owed his escape. As he rode away, the flame of the burning barn and hay-stacks lighted up the heavens behind him with their lurid glare, and "the voice of them that strive for the mastery and of them that cry for being overcome" startled the still air of the winter night. But one or two of the company beside himself escaped from the disaster. Whether it was in this engagement that he was shot in the head, I have not learned.

Lemuel was just twenty-one when the war was closed. He was married in Litchfield, in 1785. The name of his wife was Sylvia Peck (1761). He settled in Kent, Connecticut, to the northwest of Litchfield. There was born to them there a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters. They are named below:

Charlotte, July 10, 1785. Mrs. Mills, Kent.

John Jamison, March 14, 1787. Painesville, Ohio.

Lemuel, January 27, 1789.

Clarissa, December 15, 1790. Orange Township,  
Delaware County, Ohio.

Harriet, June 5, 1793. Orange Township, Delaware  
County, Ohio.

Polly, March 2, 1794. Mrs. Gale, Delaware  
County, Ohio.

Burr, February 5, 1797. Kent, Connecticut.

E. Birdseye, June 16, 1799. Delaware County,  
Ohio.

Lydia, May 25, 1801. Mrs. Reed.

In his later life he removed from Kent to Ohio, several of his children accompanying him, but some remaining behind in Kent. He settled on a farm seven miles north of Worthington, and seventeen miles north of Columbus, and died there September 29, 1831, in the seventieth year of his age.

Gideon, the second son of Lemuel, was born in 1768 and died in 1846, at Eden, Erie County, New York.

He emigrated to Canada, and married there, and several children were born to him in that country, but when the War of 1812 broke out, he found himself in danger of being forced into the British army. He sacrificed his property and made his escape across Lake Erie, near Buffalo, New York, bringing his family with him, but the excitement and hardship proved too much for his wife, and she died soon afterwards. Gideon took up a farm in Eden Township, Erie County, New York, about twenty miles due south of Buffalo. Here he married again, wrought out a new home for himself from the wilderness, and reared a second family of children. He died in Eden, in 1846. His children seem to have all disappeared from the region, and I have not been able to find any trace of them.

John, third son of Lemuel, born 1770, seems to have spent his life in the vicinity of his early home. He married Sarah Jones, and one son and three daughters were born to them, viz., Ira, Sarah J. (Mrs. Worden), Julia (Mrs. Alexander Bickney), and Ellen (Mrs. Nickerson). Ira, born in 1812, married Martha Disbrow, and by her had one son and three daughters, viz.:

James A., 1833.

Mary A., 1837.

Ada C., 1846.

Mary D., 1854.

James A. married his cousin, Mary A. Orton. They had one son, Charles, 1868-88. James died in 1870. His widow resides in New Milford, Connecticut. Mary A. died, as it appears from the repetition of the name, in early life. Ada C. married Albert Sherman, and has one daughter, Lena.

William (1772-1838) spent his life either in western Connecticut or eastern New York. He married Ruanna Lewis and had a family of three sons and two daughters. They are named as follows: James, Mary A., Sally, Lewis, and Harry.

(e) JOHN.

Lieutenant John, of Sharon, Connecticut, left two sons, as will be remembered, Joseph and Luther. Of the latter I have little knowledge, but a few facts pertaining to Joseph are at hand. He inherited his father's picturesque, but not over-productive farm in Sharon. He married Mary (Polly) Pardee, of Sharon. The Pardees of Sharon begin with Lieutenant John Pardee, born 1691, who came from Norwalk to Sharon at an early day. His house stood near the stone bridge north of the meeting house. He became a large landholder in the town, owning several places on the main street. He was a leading man in the town, as is shown by the fact that he represented it for six terms in the Colonial Legislature.

He died in 1860, leaving six sons, Thomas, Jehiel, John, Joseph, George, Moses.

Several of their descendants have been very successful business men, accumulating large fortunes in New York and elsewhere. From which one of the sons Polly, wife of Joseph Orton, was descended, I have not learned.

Joseph Orton built the house now standing on his old farm, and which is occupied by the present owner, Mr.

George R. Woodward. Here Joseph's three sons were born, viz., Milton Pardee, 1795-1864; Chauncey, Alanson.

Joseph and his wife had a high appreciation of the advantages of education, and at the expense of great effort and self-denial on the part of the family, sent their oldest son, Milton Pardee, to Yale College. Joseph died in 1864.

Luther, January 23, 1774, removed to Vermont and married there Naomi — (born June 2, 1774). To them one son, at least, was born, viz., Orrin. He removed to western New York early in the century and reared a family of children there, viz.:

Alphonso.

Zelinda. Mrs. Bingham, Albion, New York.

Delphina. Mrs. Birch.

James Volney. Moline, Michigan. Died 1895.

This completes the account of the fifth generation through Samuel of Litchfield.

### SECTION III.

#### SIXTH AND SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS OF ORTONS IN THE LINE OF SAMUEL.

In the present section I will follow the descendants of Samuel in the sixth generation, as laid down in Table IV., and I will also trace, in each case, such lines of descent as I can follow, through the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth generations. I remind the reader once more of the necessity or advantage of constant reference to the table above referred to. By means of it the true order can easily be followed.

##### (a) DESCENDANTS OF SAMUEL 3d.

There is but one Orton in the sixth generation in this line, of whom I have any knowledge, viz., Edmund, of North-

east, Erie County, Pennsylvania. He owned a beautiful farm in this township, just west of the New York State Line, and four miles east of the village of Northeast. He must have emigrated from New England to western Pennsylvania between the years 1820 and 1830. He cleared the land himself and built the house in which he lived all the remainder of his life. His farm is included in the famous grape section along the shores of Lake Erie. He married Sarah (?) Camp, who came with him from Connecticut and helped to establish the new home in the West. Five or six children were born to them here. Their names are as follows:

Maria, born about 1825. M. —— Coleman, Martinez, California.

Sarah, born about 1827. M. Stillman Belknap, Northeast, Pennsylvania.

Elah, born about 1829. Northeast, Pennsylvania.

Alvira, born about 1830.

Samuel, born about 1835. Occupies the home farm, Northeast, Pennsylvania.

I knew Edmund and his family well in my childhood. He was an industrious, economical, thrifty farmer, true, in every particular, to the New England type of the first quarter of the century. Children and children's children can be counted in this line below the list I have been able to give.

(b) DESCENDANTS OF JOHN.

In connection with a few facts of John Orton's life that I have been able to gather, and which are found on another page, will also be found a list of his children in the sixth generation.

Clarissa, the oldest daughter, born February 23, 1787, married Nathan Sanford, of Morris, Connecticut, and has

several descendants now living. Of the other daughters, I have no record. There were two sons, Aurora G. (1796) and Horatio W. (1798). Of the former I have no trace. Horatio Woodruff (September 13, 1798) removed from Connecticut in the first quarter of the century to Cuba, Alleghany County, New York, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying there May 31, 1876. In 1825 he married Sarah Carson. He owned a farm of good acreage and of fair, average quality for the region, two miles southeast of the village, which he worked out by his own toil. There, in a frame house that he built for himself in his early days, and that is still standing in reasonable preservation, his large family was born. The list appears below:

William, June 14, 1826-April 22, 1878.  
Thomas, March 2, 1828.  
Lucy, February 2, 1830.  
Robert, March 23, 1832.  
Jane, April 8, 1834.  
Susan, November 12, 1836-January 3, 1854.  
Franklin, March 20, 1839-March 8, 1840.  
Frederick, March 20, 1839-September 25, 1839.  
James, January 28, 1842-March 31, 1869.  
Martha, June 21, 1844.  
Mary E., July 3, 1847.

Horatio's family grew up in a plain way in the quietest of country homes; but there was a fire within that made it certain that they would not stay contented at the level and with the outlook to which they were born. Their talent and ambition came, I think, principally from their father's side, and his seems to have been an inheritance from his mother, Ruth Norton, of Goshen. Most of the family have the large fine eyes of their father, which I take to be characteristic of the Ruth Norton line.



**WILLIAM ORTON, PRESIDENT OF WESTERN UNION  
TELEGRAPH COMPANY.**

William, the oldest son of Horatio, is no doubt more widely known than any other of the Orton name. As president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, he achieved a reputation even wider than the continent which this company spans with its wires. In his earliest years he made the most of the opportunities of the district schools which he attended, and long before he grew to man's estate he took up the work of teaching in these schools, as so many other ambitious young men have done. He soon found that he could increase his efficiency as a teacher by laying a better foundation. With that end in view, he entered the State Normal School, Albany, New York, then under the inspiring influence of David P. Page, one of the pioneers in the work of normal training in this country. William graduated at the Normal School in 1847, expecting at the time, I presume, to devote his life to the profession of teaching.

If he had done so, he would have been as brilliantly successful in this calling as he afterwards became in other lines. He was not, however, allowed to teach many years after his graduation. His fine presence and his marked executive ability attracted to the young schoolmaster the attention of business men, and he was soon led to exchange the teacher's desk for a situation in the publishing house of George Derby & Co., Geneva, New York. He rose rapidly in the esteem of the firm, and was presently admitted as a partner. The business was then transferred to New York, but met with reverses, and William was, for a short time, in the firm of J. B. Gregory & Co., publishers.

As soon as he reached New York, he began to take an interest in public affairs, and especially in the newly formed Republican party, to which he was a staunch adherent all his life. He rose rapidly in public favor, and in 1862 was appointed by President Lincoln collector of internal revenue for the most important district of the country, viz., the sixth district of New York, embracing Wall Street. He showed such efficiency and mastery of the business that the sixth district of New York became the standard of the country in this connection, and when, presently, a congressional committee, desiring information as to the working of the law, called upon the commissioner of internal revenue at Washington and found that he was not able to answer them as to all points, they were advised to send for the collector of the sixth district of New York. The committee summoned William Orton, and he showed such thorough knowledge of every point involved, that it at once occurred to the members that he was the right man to be at the head of the department in Washington. In the course of a year or two a vacancy in the commissionership came about, and Mr. Orton was appointed by President Lincoln to the place in

1865. His administration was efficient and successful in every way. He made the acquaintance of the leading men of the country and the pathway of political preferment seemed fairly open to him. But he was not allowed to remain long in political life. He was prevailed upon to accept the presidency of the United States Telegraph Company. In the course of a year a consolidation of this company with its great rival, the Western Union Telegraph Company, was accomplished, with Mr. Orton as vice president. In 1867 he was made president, and to this great corporation and the interests it involved, he devoted the remainder of his life, withholding no service that he could possibly render. His life was brought to a premature end by the burden and strain that the business necessitated. He died in New York City, April 22, 1878, when nearly fifty-two years of age.

William Orton would have been a striking and leading personality in any community and in any line of work. In the matter of executive ability, he rose to the rank of genius.

In 1850 he married Agnes J. Gillespie, of Buffalo, and a large family was born to them. The names of the children are as follows:

Jessie, Irvington-on-Hudson.

Alice. Mrs. Dr. Richards, New York City.

William, Jr., June 18, 1858-February 20, 1891.

James, Irvington-on-Hudson.

Agnes, Irvington-on-Hudson.

Virginia, Irvington-on-Hudson.

Robert, Irvington-on-Hudson.

Grosvenor, Irvington-on-Hudson.

William's oldest son, William, Jr., born in Brooklyn, 1858, married Corinne, daughter of E. F. Shields, Esq., Mo-

bile, Alabama, and died in Knoxville, Tennessee, in 1891, leaving three children:

Corinne, 1885.  
William 3d, 1887.  
Agnes Gillespie, 1889.

The remaining sons of William are engaged in business in New York.

Thomas, the second son of Horatio, was born in Cuba, New York, March 2, 1828. He left the farm as soon as he could get away from it, and was engaged in the book business in Lacon, Illinois, and elsewhere for a number of years, and afterwards was made general manager of the supply department of the Western Union Telegraph Company, in Chicago. He made fortunate investments in real estate in that city and has acquired a considerable fortune. In 1855, he married Sarah C., second daughter of Rev. Dr. Samuel G. Orton, of Ripley, New York. She died in Chicago in 1873. He next married Minnie Woodward, by whom he had three daughters. She died in 1894. He resides in Chicago and has married a third wife, who has borne him a fourth daughter.

Lucy, oldest daughter of Horatio, married, in 1855, P. W. Huffstader, of Hornellsville, New York. She has several children.

Robert, born in 1832, died in 1876, in Brooklyn, New York. He was a young man of brilliant parts, from whom much was expected by those who knew him best, and especially by his brother, William, who was devotedly attached to him.

Jane married H. A. Mead, of Cuba, New York. She had three children, of whom two survive, viz., Robert, in business in Cuba, New York, and a daughter, Mrs. Henion, of Chicago.

James, born 1842, died in 1869. He was a young man of energy and good business promise. In his younger days he was a locomotive engineer. He married, in 1867, Rose Hitchcock, but left no children.

Martha married Edward A. Bartlett, of Cuba, New York, and has several children.

Mary E. married Frank E. Tracy, of Toledo, and has five children now living, viz., Frank, Jr., who entered on a course of mechanical engineering at Cornell University; Martha, Thomas, Fred, and Catherine.

This completes the record of Horatio W. Orton's descendants. A few of the names already given require to be counted in the ninth generation.

Of Araunah Orton's large family I have scarcely a trace. They were poor and do not seem to have had the force necessary to overcome the obstacles that obstructed their ascent. The oldest son, James Morris, was crippled. He is said to have found his way to Oneida County, New York, in early life.

(c) DESCENDANTS OF MILES.

Miles Orton, as will be seen on another page, left eight children, four sons and four daughters. Samuel G., the oldest son, born June 6, 1797, grew up in Litchfield (South Farms). The early death of his father occurred when Samuel was a lad of sixteen, and before any suitable provision had been made for the care of the household. The family felt the pressure and restriction of poverty, and Samuel, in particular, was made able to sympathize with a large side of life of which the uniformly fortunate and prosperous know and care but little. He worked for a farmer of the town, named Benton, for a number of years. But when he was eighteen years old he was for the first time seriously and

personally interested in religion, as it was at that time universally understood and set forth in New England. He was "converted" under the ministry of Dr. Lyman Beecher, who was then in the prime of his splendid powers; and forthwith Samuel felt the desire to preach the faith which he had accepted with all sincerity. His gifts were approved by the local church, and he was encouraged and aided to prepare for the ministry of the Congregational Church. This preparation was a serious undertaking, for Samuel had enjoyed but little preliminary education. He entered, however, the famous academy of James Morris, then established at South Farms. Among the students with whom he was associated, he recalled in his later life a serious-minded, rather taciturn young man, somewhat older than himself, who was hard at work learning the elements of land surveying. This young man afterwards came to be known as John Brown of Ossawatomie, the hero of Harper's Ferry.

Samuel gave all diligence to the work of preparation, and when twenty-one years old he was admitted to the Freshman class of Yale College. He had to look forward to self-support for his entire college course, and learning of a newly founded college in Oneida County, New York, which was counted an off-shoot of Yale, its president being one of the famous Dwight family, and thinking that he could support himself more easily in the new college than in New Haven, he decided, before the end of the first year, to exchange Yale for Hamilton College. There was no public conveyance that he could afford to patronize, and he walked from New Haven to Clinton, New York, carrying on his shoulder his books, and, in fact, all his earthly possessions. When he reached his destination he had seventy-five cents in his pocket. By dint of tireless energy and the closest economy, he graduated with his class in 1822, without the

burden of one cent of debt upon him. He had earned all he was obliged to spend in getting a college degree. Among his class and college mates in Hamilton were several men who afterwards became distinguished, with some of whom he maintained the pleasantest relations all his life, viz., Dr. Albert Barnes, the popular commentator; Dr. Joel Parker, the well-known divine of New York City, and Dr. Edward Robinson, the distinguished Oriental and Biblical scholar.



REV. SAMUEL G. ORTON, D. D.

To gain the theological training requisite for his profession he went back to New Haven, where he studied theology under Dr. Nathaniel Taylor. He was profoundly influenced by this bold and vigorous thinker, who introduced into his Calvinistic theology as much reason and common sense as the scheme could possibly be made to hold. Samuel was licensed to preach in October, 1824, by the Litchfield South Association, and in December of the same year he married Clarissa Gregory, at Deposit, Delaware County,

New York. In January, 1826, he was ordained pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Sidney Plains, a pleasant village in the lovely Susquehanna Valley. In the course of a few years he was called to the Presbyterian Church of Delhi, the capital of the county; but his health failed here to such an extent that he was peremptorily ordered by his physicians to seek a change of climate. He set out on horseback for western New York, and rode through the entire breadth of the State, reaching its western limit, in Chautauqua County, in 1833. For some time he preached as an evangelist among the weaker churches of Chautauqua, Erie, and Cattaraugus Counties, New York. For this service he was peculiarly fitted. He had a pastorate of several years in the Park Street Church, Buffalo; but in 1837 he became the pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Ripley, the westernmost town of New York, on the lake shore. It is a beautiful township, the surface of which has been, within the last few years, largely transformed into vineyards and orchards, to the great advantage of the farm-owners. Here Mr. Orton remained for sixteen years, interested in and serviceable to every phase of the life of the people, religious, moral, intellectual, and material. He fitted a number of the young men of his parish for college. He established and maintained in the town a private school, which was the equivalent of an academy, and which exercised a refining and uplifting influence upon the entire community to a notable extent. The church prospered greatly under his ministry, and during all these years he spent more or less time every year in the evangelistic work to which, as I have said he was particularly adapted. Retiring from active service when about sixty-five years of age, he bought a home, with thirty acres of land attached, in the township adjacent to Ripley, viz., Northeast, Pennsylvania. He died May 12, 1873, at the

home of his son-in-law, Hon. J. H. Hudson, Sandusky, Ohio.

Mr. Orton was a man of excellent gifts in many directions. He was not what would be called a great or profound preacher, but he was an unusually persuasive and successful one. He was sincere and earnest. He had a wonderful knowledge of human nature, by means of which he always adapted himself to the audience which he was addressing. He had the practical talent of the genuine New Englander; had as much knowledge of farming as any farmer in his parish, and almost the same could be said of him in many other lines of business. To the end of his days he had an eager love of knowledge of nature and of man; was hospitable to all new thought, so far as it did not seem to be inconsistent with his theological tenets, which were, to him, the most vital and important facts in the universe. His kind and sympathetic nature made him universally beloved. He received the degree of D. D. from a western college in 1845. In person he was about five feet eight inches in height and exceedingly well proportioned. In his early life he was very strong and active. The Gibbs voice, full, strong, and musical, to which I have before alluded, was one of the inheritances which served specially well in his profession.

His wife, Clara Gregory (Orton), was born in Dover Plains, New York, February 17, 1799. She was the youngest daughter of Rev. Justus Gregory. Her grandfather was, for a time, a resident of Sharon, Connecticut, but the original family home of the Gregorys in New England, was Norwalk, Connecticut. Their English home was Nottingham. One of Mrs. Orton's brothers was Rev. David D. Gregory, a Presbyterian clergyman, for many years settled in Binghamton, New York. Another brother was Major General Edgar M. Gregory, a gallant and honored officer in the War of the Rebellion. The Gregory family held a somewhat

higher social position than the Ortons, according to the undefined and indefinable standards which we accept in such matters. Mrs. Orton died suddenly, at her home in Northeast, Pennsylvania, July 26, 1863, in the sixty-fourth year of her age. Four children survived them:

Elizabeth, June 16, 1827. Mrs. J. H. Hudson, Sandusky, Ohio.

Edward, March 9, 1829. Columbus, Ohio.

Sarah C., March 4, 1833-1873. Mrs. Thomas Orton, Chicago.

Samuel G., August 13, 1837. Kirkwood, Missouri.

Elizabeth married Hon. J. H. Hudson, and has lived in Sandusky, Ohio, for the last twenty-five years. She is a lady of unusual intellectual activity and force and does not allow the burden of years to weigh down her vivacity or depress her ambition.

Edward was fitted for college by his father and in the academies of Westfield and Fredonia, New York. He entered the Sophomore Class of Hamilton College in 1845, graduating in 1848. He taught for several years, studied in Lane and Andover Theological Seminaries, but finally settled down to the study and teaching of natural science, and especially of geology. He left New York for Ohio in 1868, was in Antioch College for seven years as professor, and finally as president, and then accepted the presidency of the State University in 1873, holding this office until 1881; since that he has been professor of geology. He has also been State geologist of Ohio for twenty years.

In 1855 he married Mary M. Jennings, of Franklin, New York, by whom he had four children. She died in 1873. In 1875 he married Anna Davenport Torrey, of Millbury Mass.

By his first wife he had four children, and by his second wife two. They are named below:

Charles Jennings, October 22, 1856. Marietta, Minnesota.

Clara Gregory, December 31, 1859. Columbus, Ohio.

Edward, Jr., October 6, 1862. Columbus, Ohio.

Mary Jennings, June 12, 1864. Columbus, Ohio.

Louise Taft, June 6, 1877. Columbus, Ohio.

Samuel Torrey, October 15, 1879. •

Charles Jennings is a farmer in Marietta, Lac Qui Parle County, Minnesota. He married Florence Bell in January, 1881. They have two children, George Edward, 1882, and Clara Bell, 1895.

Edward, Jr., is a graduate of the Ohio State University, with the degree of Engineer of Mines. He is at present professor of Ceramics in the same institution and is a young man of great energy and great promise. In 1886 he married Mary P. Anderson, of Columbus.

Clara G. is a teacher. She is well trained and successful. She devoted a year to the study of art in Europe. Mary Jennings is a graduate of Wellesley, 1892, and has been teaching for a year or two. Louise Taft is a student of Wellesley. Samuel T. is fitting for college, and expects to study either medicine or mechanical engineering.

Samuel Gregory, youngest son of Rev. Samuel G. Orton, has followed various lines of business. He is an excellent mechanical engineer, is a successful contractor on public work, but prefers to be called a farmer. In this calling he has a large and intelligent interest. He married Etta Budd, of Greenville, Pennsylvania, in 1863, and now resides in Kirkwood, Missouri. He has no children.

To the other sons of Miles Orton I can give but a brief allowance of space. Miles M., Jr., born in 1799, died in 1820,

just as he was entering manhood. He was an amiable and excellent young man, greatly beloved by his brothers and sisters.

The third son of Miles and Lydia, William II., was born March 20, 1801. He had the trim and handsome figure and the genial ways of his father. He learned the carpenter's trade and was a good and efficient workman. In November, 1821, he married Alma A., daughter of Daniel Porter, of Waterbury, Connecticut. She died early, leaving him an infant daughter, Caroline E., born October 14, 1822, who, on the death of her mother, was cared for by her grandmother, Lydia Orton, for several years, after which she found a home with her uncle, Deacon Timothy Porter, of Waterbury. In October, 1844, she was married to William S. Platt, a manufacturer of Waterbury. He was a son of Deacon Alfred Platt, of the same town, who began on a small scale, sixty or seventy years ago, the manufacture of buttons in that ingenious town. His sons grew up in the business, constantly expanding it to meet new conditions and demands, and substituting for hand labor, ingenious machines, invented and constructed by themselves. They built up a large business that now employs two hundred hands, and they achieved large fortunes by means thereof. William S. Platt died March 27, 1886. His wife survives, bearing her three-score and ten years lightly. She has three children, two daughters and one son, as follows:

Helen J. Mrs. Wallace H. Camp, Waterbury.

Caroline A., Waterbury.

Irving Gibbs, Waterbury.

Mrs. Camp has an interesting family, one of whom bears the given name of Orton. Irving G. Platt is one of the most active and successful business men of Waterbury.

William H. married, for his second wife, Louisa Boughton, and had another daughter, Mary J., born April 19, 1828. She grew up in Waterbury and was married to Willard Tompkins. She died November 19, 1892, leaving two sons, now residents of Waterbury. William removed from Connecticut to Ohio about 1835. He lived for a time in Sandusky, and then removed to Republic, Seneca County, where he died November 21, 1842.

Edward S., the youngest son of Miles and Lydia Orton, was born December 25, 1809. He, too, learned the carpenter's trade and was called a young man of excellent character and promise. He set out for the West, but from the day he left Litchfield, in 1832, he was never heard of again. His brother, Samuel, followed every possible clue which a wide acquaintance in the Western States could afford, but to no purpose, and he was finally disposed to believe that Edward had died suddenly and soon after leaving home, a stranger in a strange land.

The Orton name comes down from Miles's family only through Samuel, and through Samuel only by Edward.

#### SECTION IV.

##### SIXTH AND LATER GENERATIONS, IN LINE OF HEZEKIAH.

We come next to Hezekiah Orton's descendants, in the sixth and later generations. As is seen in the chart, Hezekiah left four sons, whose fortunes have been briefly described. Hezekiah, Jr., died in his youth in the wilderness of New York, five years before the beginning of the Revolutionary War, leaving a wife, twin sons and a daughter. One of the twins, Hezekiah 3d, as has been already stated, married, and four children were born to him. The Orton name is continued in this line through his son, Morgan, 1794,

who was one of the earliest settlers of the Western Reserve of Ohio. He established himself at Auburn, Geauga County, Ohio, and reared a family there. He had at least one son, Wesley H., born November 1, 1842, who is now a resident of Fullerton, Nebraska.

(a) DESCENDANTS OF ELIADA (1748).

The second son of Hezekiah (1727) and Anna Sedgwick, his wife, was born and grew up in Litchfield (South Farms. The rather unusual scriptural name, Eliada, was given to him. It was taken, with little doubt, from a worthy physician of Litchfield, Dr. Eliada Osborn. In spite of its oddity, it has been kept up in the family for three generations.

Eliada married Lucia Hungerford in 1770, and within the next ten years four sons were born to them. But in spite of the demand of his growing household upon him for defense and support, he responded once and again to the call of his country and saw a good deal of service in the Revolutionary Army during the years 1777-8-9. For his services he afterwards received a pension from the general government. After the war he must have removed, temporarily, to Vermont, for in the Congressional List of Pensioners, he is enrolled as "a pensioner of Connecticut, residing in the State of Vermont." In 1804 he removed to the east end of Lake Ontario, where his older brother, Hezekiah, had settled thirty years before. He took up land in the town of Parish, Oswego County, New York, where some of his lineal descendants still remain. The names of his four sons are as follows: Hosmer (1773), Eliada, Jr. (1775-1860), Zenas (1777), Leman (1779). Of the oldest and youngest of this list I find no further information. The second son, Eliada, Jr., grew up in Parish, New York, and left a family of five sons,

named below: Jedediah (1799), Marvin (1801), William (1803-1886), Ransom (1805-1885), John (1808-1882), David H. (1809). There were also three daughters in the family, viz., Luanna, Polly, and Julia. Luanna, the eldest, married a judge in the State of New York. Of the oldest son, I find no record. Marvin settled in St. Joseph, Michigan.

William, the third son of Eliada, Jr., lived all his life in Parish, dying there in 1886. Three sons were born to him, viz., Hamilton (1835-8); Ransom H. (1838), Gayville, New York; Newell W. (1846), Cleveland, Ohio. Ransom H. is engaged in various lines of business, including milling. He has had two sons, viz., Irving (1859-82), and Charles N. (1865). Charles N. is employed as a railroad agent on the New York Central line, somewhere in the vicinity of his old home. A daughter, Nellie, resides in Syracuse, New York.

Newell W. is a successful business man and has been for many years a resident of Cleveland, Ohio. I am indebted to him for the facts pertaining to his branch of the family.

Ransom (1805-85), fourth son of Eliada, Jr., was born, brought up, and married in Oswego County, New York, but removed from there about forty years since to Sharon, Medina County, Ohio. He was unusually successful as a farmer and accumulated considerable property. He was three times married, and left five sons, viz., Roswell E., Ransom J., John A., George B., and William B. Roswell E., the only son by his first wife, lives in Copenhagen, New York, near the town in which he was born. He married Miss Coates, who is of Scotch descent. Four sons have been born to them, viz., Ashbel (1850-5), Robert (Burns) (1853), Wellington (1859), Eliada (3d) (1861). Wellington is living somewhere on the Pacific Coast. The others are residents of Williamstown, New York. By the second wife, Fanny Connell,

there were born Ransom (1846) and John A. (1849). Ransom has been engaged in mining in southern California for many years. John A. is a successful farmer, residing at Boneta, Medina County, Ohio. He married Sarah Fixler, and has three children, two of them sons, viz., Clyde B. (1876), and Don R. (1883). By the third marriage of Ransom (1805), two sons were born, viz., George B. (1868) and William B. (1870), both of whom reside in Sharon, Ohio, and are wealthy and respected citizens. Their mother, Mrs. Fanny Derr Orton, also lives in Sharon:

George B. married Eva Wager in 1890, and has one child, Fay E. (1891). William B. married Estella Hazen in 1891, and has one son, Guy E. (1893).

Of John (1807-82), who lived in Parish, New York, I have no further report. I think he left no children. David H. (1809-1865) was born in Parish, New York, July 14, 1809 (one record says 1819). In 1837 he removed to Lockport, Michigan, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying there October 13, 1865. He was twice married. By his first wife, whose name I have not learned, he had two children, viz., Emery D., who resides in Sac City, Sac County, Iowa, and Eliza (Mrs. Lose), who resides in Aberdeen, South Dakota. He married, for his second wife, Marilla J. Cleveland, who bore him six children, viz.:

Lucy, January 29, 1855. Mrs. Theodore Gottschalk,  
Lyons, Kansas.

Stephen, August 18, 1857. Three Rivers, Mich.

David H., Jr., December 5, 1858. Three Rivers,  
Michigan.

Adelbert, M. D., February 3, 1861-January 31,  
1891. Ewing Station, Michigan.

Adele, February 3, 1861. Mrs. Charles Isbell,  
Rochester, New York.

Chauncey, May 10, 1864.

Mrs. Gottschalk has three sons, Roy, Frank, and Earl. Stephen has had three children, Pearl, William, and Ethel. William died in February, 1894, at the age of nine years. David H., Jr., has two children, Bernard and Lola. Adelbert studied medicine and entered on the practice in northern Michigan, but died prematurely, in 1891. Adele married Charles Isbell, and two children have been born to them, Roy and Lula. She resides in Rochester, New York.

(2a) ZENAS.

The third son of Eliada Orton (1748) was Zenas, born in Connecticut in 1777. Zenas removed to Vermont when he arrived at man's estate, but, after a little time, crossed over into Canada, where the rest of his life was spent, and where a large and prosperous family of Ortons, derived from him, has grown up. He had two sons and one daughter, named as follows: Zenas, Jr., Alvin, Zada. Zenas, Jr., oldest son of Zenas (1777) left a large family, many of whom are still living in Canada and elsewhere. Their names are as follows:

Zenas (3d), 1830. Olinda, Ontario.

Theodora, 1832. Casnovia, Michigan.

Catherine, 1834. Mrs. Bourne, Chicago, Illinois.

John, 1836-72.

Pradieux, 1838. Olinda, Ontario.

William, 1840. Mount Dora, Florida.

Alvin, 1842. Cottam, Ontario.

Lucinda, 1842. Mrs. Whitsell, Casnovia, Michigan.

Olga, 1856. Mrs. Hyslop, Olinda, Ontario.

Euria, 1858. Mrs. Wright, Hann, Ontario.

Several members of this family are residents of Essex County, Ontario, which lies between Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie. Alvin and Pradieux are both councillors for their respective towns in the county board of control, which is a guaranty that they are held in esteem as men of sound judgment and honorable character.

Alvin, second son of Zenas (1777), and brother of Zenas, Jr., was born November 21, 1809, married Alzina Bullis in 1833, and left three sons and three daughters. The children are named below:

Mary, 1834. Mrs. James Cumming, Cottam, Ontario.

Celsus, 1835. Langdon, North Dakota.

Jane A., 1837. Mrs. Joseph Robeson.

Morris Cuvier, 1839, Juneau City, Alaska.

Alvin and Alzina, March 22, 1843.

In 1843 Alvin married a second wife, Erne Benedict, who bore him a daughter, Lucy (Mrs. Crofton J. Gilroy, Glenn Buell, Ontario). Alvin (1843) has a son, Herbert, who is now a resident of Findlay, Ohio.

From this vigorous stock there are a large number of the descendants of Thomas Orton of Windsor, in the eighth and later generations, settled mainly in Canada and the northwestern States of the Union.

(b) DESCENDANTS OF SEDGWICK.

Sedgwick, third son of Hezekiah, born in 1750, bore the honored name of his mother's family. He lived in Litchfield and married there Sarah Tucker. He left four sons, whose names, though already given, will be repeated here: Heman, Edmund, Harmon, Daniel.

## (1b) HEMAN.

Heman was born May 11, 1780, in Connecticut. He married Sarah (Sally), daughter of Aaron Hull, of Meriden. In 1803 he removed to Livingston County, New York, where Mrs. Orton died two years afterward. He married, for his second wife, Cecilia Briggs. By the first wife he had two sons, James Morris, born May 8, 1802, and Heman Hull, born March 30, 1804. By his second wife he had seven children, named below:

Sarah A. (Sally). Died June 15, 1887.

J. Trumbull. Died March 9, 1866.

Tyler.

Juliette. Mrs. Samuel Taylor, Forestville, Connecticut. Died 1883.

Elizabeth.

Adeline. Mrs. P. T. Wood, San Francisco, California.

Ora O., a miner in California, died August, 1865.

James Morris, the oldest son of Sedgwick and Sarah T. Orton, was born in Litchfield, May 28, 1802, and lived there until he was twenty-one years of age, when he emigrated to Livingston County, New York. In 1826 he married Eunice Marsh, who lived only five years after her marriage, dying June 24, 1836. For his second wife he married, in 1837, Ruby Hart Gillett, and established himself in Rome, Oneida County, New York. The names of his children are given below. It will be observed that the first two in the list are the children of the first wife:

Jane E., August 29, 1829.

Edward M., May 2, 1834.

Richard H., August 23, 1838-January 8, 1894.  
Oakland, California.

**Alice S., January 15, 1840.**

**Albert W., October 5, 1842. Rome, New York.**

**Frederick M., December 23, 1844. Rome, New York.**

**Adelaide L., March 15, 1848. Mrs. T. C. Hoyt,  
Rochester, New York.**

**Anna M., May 5, 1857. Mrs. Frank Sessions, Keo-  
kuk, Iowa.**

**Mrs. Ruby H. Orton died at Rome, New York, June 3,  
1893.**

I am able to trace the family of the second son, viz., the late General Richard H. Orton, of Oakland, California. He was the oldest son of James Morris by his second wife. He was born in Rome, New York, in 1838, and removed to California in 1858. In 1863 he enlisted in the Union Army and was soon thereafter appointed second lieutenant of Company F, First California Cavalry. He presently rose to the rank of captain and saw a great deal of active service, both on the Mexican frontier and in holding the Indians of the plains in check during the early years of the war. He was constantly on the march or in exposed positions, where hardships were sure to be encountered. He was the last man of his force to be mustered out, the date of his discharge being January 7, 1868. He then took up the insurance business in San Francisco. He was also active in the organization of the National Guard of California. He was commissioned major in this organization and discharged the duties pertaining to the office until 1878, when, at his own request, he was placed on the retired list, but the title of major of cavalry for life was given him at the same time.

In 1888 he was appointed adjutant general of the State of California, and held the office for the regular term of two years. His administration was highly efficient and popu-

lar; but soon after this General Orton's health began to fail, his constitution probably having been undermined by the exposures and hardships of the military service through which he had passed. In 1853 he married Dora R. Carroll, and from this union five children were born, viz.:

Ruby M., February 2, 1875. Oakland, California.  
Alice B., July 11, 1879. Oakland, California.  
Carroll, December 1, 1879. Oakland, California.  
Emma, April 3, 1883. Oakland, California.  
Olive, July 6, 1886. Oakland, California.

General Orton died at his home, January 8, 1894, at the age of fifty-six, long before his life could be counted complete.

He was of medium stature, was well proportioned, and active, but did not otherwise show in physique any pronounced Orton inheritance. He had a pleasant address and proved himself, in all the relations he sustained, a man of ability and force. I had the privilege of making his acquaintance in 1891, but before we knew clearly how we were related.

The next younger son, Albert W., born October 5, 1842, is a banker in Rome, New York, and has made an excellent place for himself in the community in which he was born and reared. In 1867 he married Amelia M. Van Petten, who has borne to him six children, viz.:

Grace E., February 20, 1870-April 12, 1875.  
Frederick H., November 14, 1871-April 19, 1875.  
Mary L., May 15, 1875.  
Harriet E., August 17, 1876.  
Joseph M., December 25, 1883-August 20, 1884.  
Albert W., Jr., February 24, 1890.

Frederick M., youngest son of James M. and Ruby H. Orton, was born December 23, 1844, and has always resided in Rome, New York. He has been twice married, first to Mattie Barnard, in 1874. She died in 1887. For his second wife he married Sarah Lawton, in 1889.

Of the sisters I have the partial record of two. Adelaide L. was married to Thomas C. Hoyt, in 1866, and lived in Rochester, New York. Mr. Hoyt died in Denver, in 1879, leaving one daughter, Margaret E., who was brought up in the family of her grandfather, at Rome, New York. She was recently married to George Keyes, of Rochester.

Anna M. married Frank Sessions, in 1886, and has had two sons, viz., Frederick Orton Sessions (August 16, 1878-August 22, 1880) and James Milton (September 20, 1882). Mr. and Mrs. Sessions reside at Keokuk, Iowa.

Heman H., second son of Heman and Sarah Hull Orton, was born in Litchfield, in 1804. He was three times married, and left five daughters, four of whom are married. They are named below: Elizabeth (Mrs. George Brown), Helen (Mrs. Cornelius Day), Mary A. (died 1857, aged nineteen), Sarah (Mrs. Oliver Brown), Jeannette C. (Mrs. Arthur Miller).

Of the remaining sons of Heman and Sarah H. Orton, viz., Edmund, Harmon, and Daniel, I can give no account. Nor do I know anything except the names of the children born to Heman by his second marriage.

(c) DESCENDANTS OF AZARIAH.

Azariah, fourth son of Hezekiah (1727), married Sybil Cleveland in Connecticut and emigrated to Oneida County, New York, in his old age. He had a family of five sons and several daughters. The names of the sons are as follows:

**Dennis, 1781.**  
**Sherman, 1783-1881.**  
**Azariah, 1793.**  
**Brainerd, 1804-1886.**  
**Alfred.**

Azariah was a Revolutionary soldier and pensioner.  
See Congressional List, 1834-5, Vol. II., page 365.

(1c) **DENNIS.**

Dennis, the oldest of the family, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, September 25, 1781, emigrated to Florence, Oneida County, New York, and a few years later, to Riga, Monroe County, New York. Finally, in 1822, he removed to Ohio, entering public land in Richland County. He took up a considerable tract two miles west of what is now the village of Shelby, and here he reared a large family. Dennis Orton was a man of keen and independent mind and was always a well-marked figure in the community. He married in Connecticut, Sarah Treat, and seven sons and three daughters were born to them. The sons are named below:

Miles, died in 1878. Albany, Missouri.  
Treat, June 1, 1804-1884 (?). West Unity, Ohio.  
Alfred. California.  
Ira. Oregon.  
Azariah. Missouri.  
Benjamin. Shelby, Ohio.  
Oliver. Alton, Illinois

Miles, the oldest of the brothers, married Lucy Gamble, of Mansfield, and removed to Gentry County, Missouri, in 1838, and died there forty years thereafter. Of his descendants, if any, I have no knowledge.

Treat Orton, born in Connecticut, emigrated with his father to Florence and Riga, New York, and then to Shelby, Ohio. He there married Rosette DuBois, of that town, and in 1865 he removed to West Unity, Williams County, Ohio, and died there a few years ago. He was a candid, conscientious man, respected and honored in all the circles in which he moved. He left two sons and two daughters.

Charlotte A. was born in Shelby January 16, 1833, and married, in 1854, to Dr. W. H. Bunker, of Hartwell, Ohio. They have two daughters, May (1856) and Rosa (1861). Dr. Bunker has been superintendent of Longview Asylum and has also been placed by his neighbors and fellow-citizens in other positions of honor and trust. He was in the army during the War of the Rebellion. He is still engaged in the practice of his profession. His younger daughter, Rosa, is married and resides in Urbana, Ohio.

Ebenezer C., March 22, 1834, lives in West Unity, Ohio. He married Annie Y. Orr, and has four children, viz., Minnie (1861), William (1864), Leonard (1870), and Adda (1874).

Hobart G., March 2, 1838, was reared on his father's farm at Shelby. He entered the preparatory department of Oberlin College in 1856. He was a Freshman when the War of the Rebellion broke out, and enlisted in Company C, Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry. On August 26, 1861, he was severely wounded in an engagement at Cross Lane, West Virginia. He was left upon the field and captured by the Confederates. Some months elapsed before his friends received any word from him, and it was confidently believed by them that he was killed in the engagement. Returning from the army at the expiration of the war, he studied law, and was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court of Ohio in 1864. In 1865 he married Angie C. Stewart, who had been a fellow-student of his at Oberlin, and who had subse-

quently graduated there. In 1866 he removed to Princeton, Missouri where he has since resided. He is a lawyer of large practice, has held the office of probate judge of his county, and in 1894 was a candidate on the Republican ticket for Congress in his district, but was defeated, although he reduced a majority of over three thousand in 1892 to about three hundred in 1894. Judge Orton is a man of positive views, and has the courage of his convictions. He is a recognized leader in the section of the State to which he belongs. He has three children living, Helen D. (1869), Ira D. (1871), Eldon (1875). All are college bred and the oldest son is now practicing law in San Francisco, having already become a partner in one of the leading law firms of that city.

Sarah A., youngest daughter of Treat Orton, was born November 1, 1840, at Shelby, Ohio. In 1866 she was married to Dr. Albert Wilber, of West Unity, which is their present residence. They have three daughters and one son, as follows: Laura (1867), Orton (1869), Inez (1870), Edith (1871).

Of the remaining sons of Dennis and Sarah T. Orton, viz., Alfred, Ira, Azariah, I can give but a fragmentary account. Alfred seems to have been born with a roving disposition. He spent a number of years in the employ of the Hudson Bay Fur Company, in the wilds of Oregon, Washington, etc. His brother, Ira, has also lived on the frontier for many years. Both are now supposed to be on the western coast, if alive. Azariah removed to Gentry County, Missouri, many years ago.

Benjamin, the youngest son of Dennis and Sarah T. Orton, was born in Oneida County, New York, in 1808. He came with his father to Richland County, Ohio, in 1822, and remained there for the rest of his life, dying in Shelby in

1893. In his early life he was engaged in mercantile business and had more or less to do with that line of work all his days. He was also a land surveyor and attended to various kinds of public business for his friends and neighbors. He was known among them as Judge Orton, but I am not sure as to how the title came. He was a bright, quick-witted man, full of anecdote and ready in repartee, and was counted the best of company wherever he appeared. He had unusual mathematical ability, which was inherited by his children, and in one case a son "bettered his instructions" in a remarkable way. He married Sarah Hooker, the daughter of a successful merchant of Fredericktown, Ohio. Three children were born to them while residing in Ganges, a small village of the county:

Albina, August 1, 1841. Mrs. D. M. Garrett, Brookline, Massachusetts.

Hoy D., April 19, 1843-1877. Baltimore, Maryland.  
Sabinus, December 27, 1845.

The elder son, Hoy D., was a born genius. His gifts in the field of arithmetic were phenomenal, and he had talent, also, in other divisions of mathematics. He had a fine memory and unusual command of language. He was a natural orator, but in the science of numbers his most marked talent seemed to lie. All the subjects and problems that came to him in this line throughout his school days were equally simple and transparent to him. As he grew to manhood he developed a mastery of numbers that was marvelous and beyond comprehension. He became what is known as a "lightning calculator." He could apply the fundamental processes of arithmetic, viz., addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, to long columns and series of figures written down as fast as the figures could be made and would

give the correct results instantly. He was the author of an arithmetic, and sold the book at exhibitions, where his almost miraculous gifts could be publicly demonstrated and tested. His great talent did not, however, serve him well. The highest position he ever held was a professorship in Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College, Baltimore. Though in receipt of a large income for several years, he failed to accumulate any property, and died in 1877, in Baltimore, Maryland. He was only thirty-four years old when he died. He left two children, a son and daughter. The son, Forest H., born in 1865, is a dentist, taking his degree with the highest honors of his class in San Francisco, in 1892, and is now in successful practice in St. Paul, Minnesota. The daughter, Nellie, born in 1867, has educated herself and is now in business as a stenographer in West Superior, Wisconsin. She is also publishing a real estate record.

The second son, Sabinus, was in his early years counted a young man of great promise, but the expectations of his friends have not been realized in his case. He has dropped out of all connection with his family. If alive, he is probably in California.

Albina (August 1, 1841) was brought up in Shelby, Richland County. She was a bright and wakeful-minded student, turning to the best account all her opportunities. She was married to Daniel M. Garrett, November 23, 1865. Mr. Garrett was, on his father's side, of Welsh descent, belonging to the same family to which the Garrett family of Baltimore belong. He had a marked capacity for business and his talent proved to have a recognized money value. He was for many years in the employ of the Whitman & Barnes Manufacturing Company, of Syracuse, New York and Akron, Ohio. He rose from a humble position in their great business to an interest in the firm, together with a

large salary, but he was cut down in the height of his powers and in the full tide of business success. He was sent to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1879, to superintend the interests of his company in New England. His untimely death occurred March 17, 1889.

To Mr. and Mrs. Garrett three children were born, viz., Orton (1870), Fred. Carleton (1873), and Miriam (1883). But one of these survives, viz., Fred. C., who is at present living with his mother at her home in Brookline, Massachusetts.

(2c) SHERMAN.

Sherman Orton (1783-1881), second son of Azariah (1757), of Hezekiah (1727), was born and reared in New York, married Dolly Gifford, of Booneville, New York, and at an early day moved to central Illinois, where he died at an advanced age. He had eight children, named below:

Adaline. Mrs. Ward.

Azariah. Deceased.

Augustus L. R. Alta Vista, Kansas.

Mary A. C. Mrs. Wilkeson. Deceased.

Clara T. Mrs. Munshaw, South Omaha, Nebraska.

Dennis L. Farmington, Illinois.

Sylvester. Bedford, Iowa.

Matthew S. Bedford, Iowa.

(3c) AZARIAH.

Azariah, fourth son of Azariah of Hezekiah, was born in Florence, New York, November 25, 1792. He had three sons and two daughters. One of the sons is named Dennis L. and resides at or near Farmington, Illinois. He has a cousin of the same name residing in the same town (son of Sherman Orton). Dennis L. of Azariah has a son, William B., who is engaged in business in Farmington.

## (4c) BRAINERD.

Brainerd Orton (1804-86) was the youngest son of Azariah (1757). He was born in Oswego County, New York, July 21, 1804, and died in Sterling, Illinois, in October, 1886. He lived for a time in Rome, New York, and while a resident of that town married, in 1832, Hannah Smith (September 11, 1807-December 31, 1884). Ten children were born to them, several of whom died in infancy. The names of the sons are as follows: Brainerd E., Henry, Albert, LaRue P., Mathew C. Mr. Orton removed to Sterling, Illinois, where he was engaged in a large and successful milling business.

Brainerd E. was born in Rome, New York, in 1834, and died in Denver, Colorado, April 27, 1877. In 1855 he married Julia Maine and five children were born to them, viz., LaRue, April, 1860; Ralph, May 13, 1862; Miles, December, 1865; Grace, October, 1868.

LaRue and Robert, sons of Brainerd E., reside in Lawrence, Kansas. In October, 1892, Robert married May Bond. Grace married Thomas Cornly and has two children. She resides in Sterling, Illinois.

Albert and Henry, next sons of Brainerd (1804), died in infancy, and LaRue P., born in 1840, died in 1859.

Matthew C., youngest son of Brainerd (1804) was born in Rome, New York, August 10, 1844, and was brought up in Sterling, Illinois. In December, 1867, he married Alice D. Clifford, by whom he has three daughters, viz., Maine Alice, September 17, 1868; Genevra C., April 25, 1874; Beatrice H., September 17, 1879. Mr. M. C. Orton now resides in Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri. He is in active business in connection with large enterprises.

## (d) DESCENDANTS OF DARIUS (1760).

Of the descendants of Darius (1760) in the sixth and later generations, the following account can be given:

Darius, as will be remembered, was a Revolutionary pensioner, duly reported in the Congressional List of Pensioners of 1834, Vol. II., page 387. He settled in Williamstown, Oswego County, New York, and reared there a family of five sons and two daughters. Their names are as follows: Truman, Baruch, Darius, Luna, Ruth, Bronson, Hiram.

(1d) Truman married and removed to Harbor Creek, Pennsylvania, where he died. He left two sons, Ashbel and William. Ashbel had a son, William, who is now living at Sargent's Bluff, Iowa. From Baruch, Darius, and Hiram, long lists of Ortons can be traced.

(2d) Baruch remained in Williamstown, and to him seven sons and two daughters were born. The names of the family are given below:

Joseph, 1809. Williamstown, New York.

Martha. Married. Removed to Racine, Wisconsin.

Ashbel. Williamstown, New York.

Lent. Williamstown, New York. Died young.

Betsey. Mrs. Henry Hamlin, Hanna, Indiana.

Erastus, born 1820. Venango, Pennsylvania.

William, born 1820. Venango, Pennsylvania.

Baruch, 1824-1894. Venango, Pennsylvania.

Of the succeeding descendants of this family in the eighth generation, the following record has been furnished to me:

Joseph left eight children, viz., Joseph, Jr., Henry, Lydia A., Jacob, Jireh, William, Ethel, Millison.

Ashbel left three sons and three daughters, named as follows: Baruch, Bronson, Ellen, Zipporah, William, Martha.

Darius, born 1816, third son of Baruch 1st, left four sons and four daughters, viz., Ashbel, Mercy, Eliza, Falinda, Minima, Lester, Frank, Lent.

Erastus and William, twin sons of Baruch, left Oswego County early and settled in the hill country of northeastern Pennsylvania, twenty to thirty miles south of Lake Erie. Venango Township, Erie County, has been the home of most of this household. The children of Erastus are as follows: Chauncey, Mary F., Truman, Zipporah, Sarah, Baruch, Almerion, Lydia. William's children are Alma, Nancy, Dennis, Martha D., Henry, Lydia D.

Of the family of Baruch (2d) (1824-1894), no record has been obtained. He also lived in the same region with his brothers, Erastus and William.

(3d) Hiram, fourth son of Darius (1760), was born in 1811, and twice married. The name of his second wife was Sarah E. Merwin. She bore him five children, viz., Miles (1838), Dennis (1840), Hattie (1842) (Mrs. Mann), Lester (1846), R. Z. (1855), Irene, Sylvester.

Hiram emigrated early from New York and his children were reared mainly in Iowa. He took up a considerable tract of land in Dallas County, in the central portion of the State; and when later a railroad came through, the station near him and the village built up around it were named Ortonville. Several of the family reside at Adell, in the same vicinity.

Miles, his oldest son, was born in Paw Paw, Michigan. He attained considerable notoriety as the organizer of a successful circus, which furnished recreation to great numbers of people in the Western and Southern States, and as far

east, at least, as Ohio. He has one son, Clyde, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Orville D. and Frank, sons of Dennis, and Criley, Lawrence, and Miles, sons of Lester, continue Hiram's line in the eighth generation. Mrs. Hattie Mann resides in Ortonville.

(4d) Darius, Jr., third son of Darius (1760), was born in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1790. How long the family resided there and how they came to reside there at all, I do not know. But during the first quarter of the century Darius moved to Harbor Creek, Pennsylvania, nine miles east of the city of Erie. One of his brothers, at least, was already established there. Harbor Creek is a beautiful township, included within the vineyard and garden tract that stretches along the south shore of Lake Erie from Cleveland to Buffalo. In 1819 Darius married Mercy Dustin, of Coos County, New Hampshire, who belonged to the same family with Hannah Dustin, famous in the early history of New England. There were born to them three sons and four daughters. The sons were, Charles H., William L., and George D. The daughters were, Louisa J., Lucy A., Nancy, Cordelia. In 1826 Darius removed from Harbor Creek, Pennsylvania, to Angola, Indiana, and his family still retain possession of the land which he first occupied. Of his children, the following account can be given:

Charles H. is a physician, residing in Chicago. He has been twice married. By his first wife he had one daughter, Lula, who married James Smith, of Chicago, and now resides in that city. She has four children. By a second marriage Dr. Charles also has one daughter.

William L., the second son, married Helen Hicks, and three sons and two daughters were born to them. The daughters died in infancy or childhood. The sons are named Charles L., Lester D., and Frederick W. Charles L. married

Ida Johnson, and removed to Nebraska, where his first wife died several years since. She bore him one son, who died in infancy, and two daughters, viz., Andra and Winnifred. Andra was brought up in the home of her great-aunt Louisa. Charles L. married again, and has another daughter, Esther H. He now resides in Angola, Indiana.

Lester B., second son of William L., resides in Denver, Colorado. He is married and has one son, Lazelle.

Frederick W. resides in Kansas. He is married and has two sons and one daughter.

George D., third son of Darius, Jr., was born in Harbor Creek, Pennsylvania, in 1832, and was taken, when four years old, to Angola, Indiana. He married Mary Ann Sowle and they have one daughter, Mrs. Eugene Carver. George D. resides in Angola, Indiana, as does also his daughter's family.

Of the daughters of Darius, Jr., but one, viz., the oldest, Louisa J., is now living. She resides in Angola, and to her I am principally indebted for the record of this branch of the family. Of the three other sisters, one died early. Nancy married a lawyer named May, and died in St. Paul, Minnesota, leaving no children. Cordelia, the youngest, married William Carkhuff and left two daughters, Mary and Olive, both of whom are living. Mary married Dr. Thomas B. Williams, of Angola, and has one son, William. Olive married Fleming Bodley, who died in 1895, leaving a son and daughter. This family also resides in Angola.

## SECTION V.

## DESCENDANTS OF AZARIAH (1729) IN THE SIXTH AND LATER GENERATIONS.

Of Azariah, third son of Samuel of Litchfield, who was born in 1729, who married Mary Davis and removed to Tyringham, Massachusetts, settling in that part of the town now called Monterey, I have already given account. I am now to follow the line of his descendants to the present time. As will be remembered from the record on a previous page, Azariah died in the prime of life at the age of forty-five, leaving a family of four children, viz., Azariah (1767-1844), Reuben (1768), Darius (1770-1831), Jemima (1773).

Azariah, the oldest son, grew up in Monterey and married there Abigail, daughter of Colonel Giles Jackson. When but a lad of sixteen, he shouldered his musket and enlisted in General Gates's army and took part in the several engagements that led to the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga.

To Azariah and Abigail Jackson Orton, five sons and as many daughters were born, viz.:

Azariah Giles, 1789-1864.

Charles, 1791-1850.

Thomas Porter, 1794-1847.

Abigail, 1796-1879. Mrs. Henry P. Clark.

Anna, 1798-1864.

Beulah, 1800-1851. Mrs. Captain William Churchill.

Sophronia, 1803-1833. Mrs. Stephen B. Fairchild.

Caleb Jackson, 1805-1850.

Mary A., 1807-1882. Mrs. Darwin Dean.

John, 1811-1882.

(a) Azariah G., the oldest son, grew up on the ancestral farm in Monterey, but early evinced such an aptitude for acquiring knowledge, and such intellectual and moral force that college training was provided for him without a question, with the ministry in view. He prepared for college at Lenox Academy, and in 1811 entered Williams College, then but recently established, in the northern extension of the Berkshire Hills, and graduated there with the highest honors of his class, of which William Cullen Bryant was a member, in 1815. In 1817, Mr. Orton began his professional studies in Princeton Theological Seminary. During his course of study it would appear that he had imbibed a measure of missionary zeal, and when he left the seminary he offered himself to the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church for service in the home field. He was sent by the Board "to preach in destitute places in Georgia," and passed a year in this service. He then returned to the north, and after a year of missionary work in western New York, was ordained, in 1822, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Seneca Falls, New York. He remained here for thirteen years and then spent three years as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Lisle, Broome County, New York, and afterward fourteen years in Greene, Chenango County, New York, after which he returned again to the church at Lisle for eight years, which finished his public service.

In 1822 he married Minerva Squire, of Lisle. The fact that this was his wife's home was what brought him once and again to this town. He had a pleasant residence here, with a small farm attached, on the banks of the Chenango River, and in it he spent his last years, dying there December 28, 1864. The place is still in the hands of his descendants.



REV. AZARIAH G. ORTON, D. D.

Dr. Orton was distinguished for the breadth and the accuracy of his knowledge in all the fields which he entered. He was a wide and eager reader, keeping fully abreast of his time, not only in questions pertaining to theology and philosophy, but in literature and science, as well. He was a thorough student of the chemistry and physics of his day. As a preacher, he was distinguished for being always equal to great occasions, while in his ordinary ministrations his sermons were not specially interesting to the rank and file of his hearers, though always replete with thought and sound learning. Whenever a great and urgent subject was to be considered by his Presbytery or Synod, Dr. Orton was likely to be selected to discuss it; and many of his utterances on these occasions were eloquent, influential, and long remembered. He was widely known and as widely respected in his denomination for his scholarship and ability. In 1829

he was invited to a professorship in Auburn Theological Seminary. In 1847 he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of the City of New York, and in 1850 he received the same degree from Union College. He was called to a pastorate in Washington D. C., but preferred a less conspicuous field. He was always counted by those who knew him best as adequate to the authorship of some great work, but he never published any extended treatise to justify or disprove this estimate. He left, however, a large amount of manuscript to testify to his mental activity and industry. He furnished numerous articles to the periodicals of his time. Among them a reply to Professor Moses Stuart on "The Constitution of the United States as Related to Slavery," was counted especially able. In 1842 he wrote a memorial addressed to the Senate of New York, in behalf of citizens of Chenango County, protesting against the abolition of capital punishment, which was then under discussion in the Legislature. This paper is supposed to have had great weight in shaping the action of the State at that time.

He did not confine himself entirely to the grave studies and serious topics of his profession, but he possessed, also, an imaginative vein, and occasionally turned off poems that were counted admirable by the few that had a chance to see them. Taken all in all, Dr. Orton makes a remarkable figure in our family records. He can be well set down as one of the most highly endowed members of the family, for the generations that I have undertaken to record. His modesty was equal to his merit. Four sons were born to him, viz.:

Charles, 1824-1884. Lisle, New York.

John G., M. D., 1827. Binghamton, New York.

James, Rev. Prof., 1830-1877. Poughkeepsie, New York.

William J., M. D., 1838-1875. Lisle, New York.

Charles, the eldest son, was possessed of an excellent mind, but was singularly diffident and self-distrustful, and through his life he avoided publicity of all kinds as far as possible. He was never married, and he died of a fever in 1884, at his home in Lisle.

John G., M. D., the second son, was born in Seneca Falls, December 5, 1827. He took an academic course of study and then entered the University of the City of New York as a student in the medical department, obtaining his degree there in 1853. He entered at once on the practice of his profession in Binghamton, New York, where he still resides. In 1856 he married Helen M., daughter of Dr. Ammi Doubleday, of Binghamton, and to them three daughters have been born, named as follows: Helen D., Alice (Mrs. Dunsmore), May (Mrs. F. E. Barnes). All reside in Binghamton.

Dr. Orton stands high in his profession and in the community and has been in every way successful. He has been honored with the presidency of the State Medical Society of New York, of which he was one of the founders. A suburb of Binghamton has been laid out in town lots from lands owned by him, in which the family name will be perpetuated. He has always taken great interest in philanthropic enterprises. He was one of the founders of the Binghamton Orphan Asylum, and also of the City Hospital. He has also served the State Blind Asylum as trustee, secretary, and treasurer. In the establishment of the State Board of Health he took an active part. His contributions to the literature of his profession have been numerous. He has been United States examining surgeon for more than a quarter of a century. In a word, he has filled a conspicuous and honorable place through a long and useful life.

James, third son of Rev. Dr. Orton, was born in Seneca Falls, April 21, 1830. He was fitted for college mainly at home and in 1851 entered Williams College, from which his father had graduated before him. He took his baccalaureate degree there in 1855. He selected the ministry as his profession, and in 1858 completed a course of theological instruction in Andover Seminary. During his collegiate course he won a good deal of reputation as a writer, and even at this early date, entered the world of letters as a successful author, supporting himself, at least in part, in college and seminary, by his pen. After his graduation from the seminary, he spent two years in travel and study in Europe. On July 11, 1860, he was ordained pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Greene, New York, of which his father had been pastor a quarter of a century earlier. He remained here but a year, when he accepted a call to Thomaston, Maine, where he remained two years.

A strong interest in natural history was native to his mind and was developed during his college course, though there was little in the traditions or training of Williams College to arouse or sustain such an interest. He devised and carried forward successfully a students' expedition to Labrador, during one of his vacations. This is the first instance, so far as I can learn, of that mode of wakening interest in and enriching museums which is so common at the present time. By travel and by close observation he was constantly extending his knowledge of natural history, and particularly of geology and zoology. In 1866 he was appointed instructor in natural history in the University of Rochester, but he was obliged to continue his clerical duties at the same time. In 1867 he organized a scientific expedition to South America, under the auspices of Williams College. He crossed the continent by way of Quito and made

observations and collections of extreme value and interest to science. He brought back the first fossils ever reported from the stratified rocks of the Amazon Valley.



PROF. JAMES ORTON, VASSAR COLLEGE.

In 1869 he was appointed professor of natural history in Vassar College and entered on his duties forthwith. This was the great opportunity of his life. He could now devote himself to the sciences which he loved so well with undivided mind. Hitherto he had been obliged to give a large share of his time and strength to the ministerial profession, upon which he depended for support, but from this time forward he was able to serve science with a single eye. He achieved marked success as a teacher and lecturer, and his memory was long and gratefully cherished by his associates and students in Vassar.

In 1873 he planned and accomplished a still more ambitious journey of exploration in South America. In this ex-

pedition, he crossed the continent from Para to Lima, by Lake Titicaca. His notes and observations covered the whole field of natural history. Probably no South American traveler since Humboldt had been so well prepared for such an exploration, and Professor Orton came henceforth to be counted as one of the highest living authorities on the central region of this wonderful continent. This work undoubtedly constitutes his best claim to be remembered beyond his brief day.

Not long after his return his health began to fail. Pulmonary trouble manifested itself in unmistakable form. He fought manfully against the dread disease, and in 1876, as a last resort, he determined to return to the high plateau regions of Peru and Bolivia, in hope that change of air and station would arrest the progress of the disease. He spent the winter months of 1876-77 in the region already named; but early in 1877 he undertook another task, to which, as the event proved, his strength was unequal. He proposed, as his special line of inquiry on this journey, the exploration of the basin of the Beni River, an important tributary of the Madeira, which itself belongs to the great Amazon system. He had in view a preliminary survey for a railroad to connect the navigable waters of the Amazons with the railroad that had been already built from the Pacific Coast to La Paz, the capital of Bolivia. The river basin which he proposed to explore, embracing at least fifteen thousand square miles of territory, was almost entirely unknown, and he was full of ambition to determine its character and resources.

Dr. Heath, an American physician, who had for several years resided in Peru, joined him in La Paz in March, 1877, to aid in this exploration. Professor Orton's strength was being steadily depleted by his disease, but his hope and cour-

age never gave way, and with his companion, he set out on a journey down one of the branches of the Madeira which was, even where it was first struck, at the foot of the mountains, a great river, three-quarters of a mile wide, eighty or ninety feet in depth, and flowing with a current of several miles an hour. The natives that he was obliged to employ proved treacherous and refractory, and after advancing for two weeks into a world unknown to them, they deserted him in a body, and obliged him to change his entire plan. He turned back to the westward, striking across the mountains to Lake Titicaca. He had over-rated and was constantly overtaxing his strength; and in the excitement caused by the mutiny and desertion of his native helpers, he had brought on a hemorrhage, by which he was greatly prostrated. The crossing of the mountains, which he had now to undertake, was made by him with the greatest difficulty and suffering. He kept on horseback until he was too weak to sit in the saddle, and then struggled along on foot through the thin, cold air of the snowy passes, making sometimes but three miles a day. At last his strength failed, so that he could advance only by being carried on the backs of natives from station to station. On the 24th of September, he reached the eastern shore of the lake and took passage in a little sailing vessel of twenty tons, the Aurora, for Puno, on the Peruvian or western shore of the lake. Puno is also on the line of the railroad already referred to. When he was carried to the deck of the little vessel, he felt that his toils and sufferings were now at an end. "Now," he said, "I have nothing to do but to lie still and ride into New York harbor." The journey across the lake required but twenty-four hours. It was begun at three o'clock in the afternoon, but before it was completed Professor Orton had reached another harbor. He died before noon, September 25, 1877.

At Puno unexpected difficulties confronted Dr. Heath in providing interment for his friend. The only cemeteries in that part of the world were under the control of the Catholic Church, and the priests absolutely refused to allow a heretic to be buried in consecrated ground. Finally, an intelligent, wealthy, and influential citizen, Signor Esteves, indignant at the bigotry of the church authorities, although a Catholic himself, gladly gave permission to bury the remains of the great naturalist on a little island of six or eight acres which he owned in Lake Titicaca. A mound of stone was piled upon the grave, which is within easy sight of the shore, and its location was otherwise definitely marked. On this quiet island, in the sacred lake of the ill-fated Aztecs, James Orton sleeps well, surrounded by as grand scenery as the sun looks down upon in its daily course. Through the marvelously clear air of the plateau a half dozen snow-clad mountains, some of them twenty thousand feet above the sea, can be counted from his grave.

Cut off in his prime, just as the work of his life was opening before him, he still has left a record of achievement which would be counted honorable even to one who should fill out the normal number of years.

He began his career as an author, even before he entered college, publishing, in 1849, a little book called the Miner's Guide and Metallurgist's Directory. The publication of such a work by one entirely untrained in the subject treated of, was, of course, audacious, but it marked the taste and ambition of the lad. In 1852, while in his senior year in college, he published a work of an entirely different character, entitled, "Proverbialist and Poet." It was issued as a gift book and brought the author remuneration enough to help complete his course of study. In 1870 he published "The Andes and the Amazons," which, though made up

mainly of hurried sketches of travel, was recognized by the discerning as a valuable contribution to geographical and geological knowledge. Successive editions of it were published by the Harpers, and it has been translated into the German language in a series of books of travel. In 1872 he published a little work that has had a wide circulation, and every copy of it has been kept in use until worn out. It was entitled, "Underground Treasures and How to Find Them." In 1873 he brought out a vigorous defense of the scheme of education represented in Vassar. It was entitled, "The Liberal Education of Women." Finally, in 1875, he published a text-book on Comparative Zoology, which has enjoyed for many years a wide popularity. In fact, it has not been replaced to this day by any better book covering the same ground.

Professor Orton was married in 1859 to Ellen E. Foote, of Williamstown, Massachusetts. Four children were born to them, three of whom are living, viz., Anne, June 23, 1862; Susan, January 27, 1865, and Albert L., August 4, 1872. A third daughter, Mary B., born November 4, 1866, died at the age of seventeen. The daughters have a successful school at Riverside, California. Albert graduated, in 1895, from Cornell University, with the degree of Electrical Engineer, and is now engaged in professional work in New York City. He is counted a young man of fine promise.

William J., youngest son of Rev. Dr. Orton, was born in Greene, in 1838. He studied medicine and began practice in his old home, Lisle, where, in 1866, he married Helen E. McCall. One son was born to them, viz., John J., 1867. Dr. William died of consumption in 1875. His widow and son remain in Lisle in the old home that came down to them from Rev. Dr. Orton. (This house was consumed by fire in February of the present year, 1896.)

Charles Orton (1791-1851), second son of Azariah, 1761, took up his residence in New York and married, in 1816, Melinda Richards. The following children were born to them there:

Charles Henry, 1817-1819.

Abigail M., 1819-1853. Mrs. Edward Crolins, Brooklyn.

Elizabeth B., 1821-1866. Mrs. William Foster, Hillsdale, New York.

Sophia J., 1825. Mrs. Dr. Reuben S. Chapin, New York.

Julia P., 1827. New York.

Charles, 1831-1848. New York.

George, 1834-1851. New York.

Mrs. Crolins, second of this list, was married in 1844 and had five children. She died in 1853.

Mrs. Chapin, fourth of the list, has had three children, but only one is now living, viz., Julia A., 1850 (Mrs. Edward Ingersoll), Kent, Connecticut.

Thomas Porter Orton, third son of Azariah, 1761, was born in 1794 and died in 1847. In 1831 he married Mary Heath and established himself in New York. The following children were born to them there:

Mary L., 1826. Mrs. Lewis VanDeusen, Hillsdale, New York.

Thomas Porter, 1829. Caribou, California.

Frances, 1831-1865. Mrs. George Bushnell, Hillsdale, New York.

Alice, 1835-1880. Mrs. Edward Crolins, Rahway, New Jersey.

Abigail, oldest daughter of Azariah (1761), was born in 1796 and died in 1879. In 1825 she married Rev. Henry Porter Clark, of Washington, D. C. Their children are as follows:

Henry James, 1826-1873.

Thomas Edward, 1828.

William C., 1830-1865.

Henry James Clark was one of the best zoologists that this country has yet produced. He took his baccalaureate degree in the University of the City of New York in 1848. For two years he taught in an academy at White Plains, New York. In 1850 he began the study of botany with Professor Asa Gray, at Harvard, but soon transferred his interest to zoology, under the elder Agassiz, receiving the degree of B. S. from the Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard University, in 1854. For several years he served as assistant to Professor Agassiz, and especially during the preparation of the monumental work of the latter, "Contributions to the Natural History of the United States." In 1860 he was made adjunct professor of natural history at Harvard, a position which he held for five years. In 1864 he delivered a course of lectures before the Lowell Institute of Boston, which were afterwards published under the title, "Mind in Nature." The volume showed talent of a high order and commanded marked attention and consideration in the reading world. In 1845 he resigned his professorship on the ground that there was not sufficient recognition of the service which he was rendering in the publications of Professor Agassiz. In 1866 he was appointed professor of natural history in the State Agricultural College of Pennsylvania; and in 1869 he accepted a like position in the University of Kentucky, at Lexington. In February, 1872, he was called

to the chair of comparative anatomy in the Massachusetts Agricultural College. He died in Amherst, July 1, 1873. He was recognized as one of the leading zoologists of this country. An account of his life and work was presented to the National Academy of Science by Professor A. S. Packard, Jr. In 1854 he married Mary Y. Holbrook, of Amherst, and four sons and four daughters were born to them.

Dr. Thomas E. Clark, the second of Abigail Orton Clark's children, graduated at New York University in 1849. He then went to Harvard University to study natural history under Agassiz and Gray. In 1853 he was appointed assistant to Agassiz. In 1854 he received the degree of B. S. from Harvard. In 1855 his eyes failed him to such an extent that he was no longer able to continue the microscopical work required in his zoological investigations. He therefore turned to chemistry and, to prepare himself properly for teaching this subject, he spent several years in special study, first under Liebig, at Munich, and afterwards at Goettingen, receiving the degree of Ph. D. from the latter university in 1858. In 1859 he was appointed professor of chemistry in Williams College, and held this position for six years. He was then attracted to the study of medicine, and in 1866 he received the degree of M. D. from Columbia College, New York. He began practice in this last-named city, but soon abandoned the profession as a business, and, for the last few years, has been a resident of California. In 1872 Dr. Clark married Mary E. Niles, in Munich, Germany.

William Churchill Clark, 1830-1865, married and left a family in New York.

Beulah, third daughter of Azariah, married, in 1830, Captain William Churchill, a sea captain and the owner of two vessels that plied between New York and Europe. The name of Tyringham was given to one of these vessels in

honor of the birthplace of his wife, who crossed the Atlantic with him twenty-two times.

Caleb J., fourth son of Azariah (1761), was born in 1805 and died in 1850. In 1833 he married Sarah A. Fairchild (1808-1872) and settled in New York City. Five children were born to them there, viz.:

Helen S., 1834-1835.

Harriet M., 1839-1880. Mrs. Alexander Howard, New York.

Beulah, 1838-1839.

Josephine A., 1840. Boston, Massachusetts.

Azariah J., 1842. Brooklyn, New York.

Josephine A. developed, at an early age, decided talent for the stage and adopted the theatrical profession while yet a girl. She rose rapidly to distinction, and was for many years known as a highly gifted and versatile actress, being equally successful in comedy and tragedy. After a career of unusual success in the leading cities of the country, she left the stage in 1872. In 1864 she married Benjamin E. Woolf, who was born in London, England. Mr. Woolf is a musician by profession, but for some years has devoted himself to journalism. He is recognized as one of the leading dramatic and musical critics of the country, but in addition to this, he is also the author of a large number of plays and operas. Among the plays, it is enough to mention "The Almighty Dollar," which was made so popular by the Florences. Some of his operas have been equally successful. Mr. and Mrs. Woolf have resided in Boston for many years.

— Azariah J., youngest son of Caleb J., married, in 1878, Sarah A. Shattel. His residence is in Brooklyn, New York.

He was a soldier in the civil war, entering the army during his last year in college. He has six children, viz.:

Joseph A., 1879.  
Adelaide M., 1881.  
Milton J., 1883.  
Edith, 1885.  
Benjamin J., 1887.  
Henry C., 1889.

John Orton, youngest son of Azariah (1761), was born in 1811 and died in 1882. In 1838 he married Louisa M. Bidwell, of Monterey, Massachusetts. His whole life was passed on the farm which he inherited from his father, and which before that had been the homestead of his grandfather, Colonel Giles Jackson. It may be of interest to note that he had decided talent for music, and that while still a youth under twenty years of age he constructed a piano with his own hands, the first ever introduced into his native town. He was also a musical composer in a small way. He had six children, viz.:

Josephine L., 1840-1866. M., in 1865, James R. Hicks, Denver, Colorado.  
John Jackson, M. D., 1842.  
Thomas B., 1844-1867. Died in the army in War of Rebellion.  
Beulah C., 1846. M., 1868, James R. Hicks, Denver, Colorado.  
Charles A., 1849.  
Alice S., 1853. Boston, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Beulah C. Hicks, who now resides in Denver, has had three children, none of whom are living.

Miss Alice C. Orton, the youngest daughter of John Orton, 1811, is a refined and cultivated lady, and at the same

time has the courage and independence of the stock from which she comes.

John Jackson Orton, M. D., obtained an academic education in the schools of Salisbury, Connecticut; New Marlborough, Massachusetts, and Winchester Center, Connecticut. In 1860 he began the study of medicine under the tutorship of his great-uncle, Dr. Benjamin Welch, of Lakeville, Connecticut. He studied further with Dr. William B. Welch, of Norfolk, Connecticut. He attended one course of medical lectures at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and two courses at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, from which he graduated in 1866. He began the practice of medicine in Norfolk, Connecticut, in 1866, in connection with Dr. William B. Welch. In 1868 he became associated in practice with Dr. Benjamin Welch, of Lakeville, Connecticut, where he has since resided. He has excellent business judgment and is accumulating a handsome competence, and in fact is already independent. Dr. Orton has never married. He is greatly interested in the genealogy of the families from which he is descended, and particularly in that of the Jacksons. In 1895 he took a prominent part in placing a suitable monument to the memory of Colonel Giles Jackson, in the old graveyard at Monterey. The monument is a massive sarcophagus, of Quincy granite. It was set in place on June 12, 1895, with appropriate exercises, in which the entire community took part, even the schools of the town being dismissed for this purpose.

(b) DARIUS, OF AZARIAH.

Of Darius, youngest son of Azariah, 1729, I am not able to give an extended account. He was born May 26, 1770, and died December 23, 1838. He was brought up in Tyringham and married there, in 1791, Vashti, youngest daughter of

Colonel Jackson. Her older sister, Abigail, had previously married Azariah, older brother of Darius.

To Darius and his wife, Vashti, four children were born, as follows: Aurilla, August 23, 1792-1874 (Mrs. Thomas Alford); Mary (Polly), October 20, 1794; Darius, July 4, 1797-July 30, 1801; Vashti, December 9, 1799 (Mrs. Charles Brookins).

Mrs. Vashti Orton died prematurely, in Tyringham, in 1803. In the same year her husband removed to Broome County, in southern New York, purchasing a farm and settling at Center Lisle. In 1805 he married a second wife, Catharine Burghardt (1770-1847), and by her he had seven other children, viz.:

Darius B., June 23, 1806-June 19, 1833.

Azariah, May 30, 1807.

Lambert, December 26, 1808.

Albert, January 25, 1810.

Catherine, September 3, 1812.

Ann, September 14, 1815.

Frederick.

Aurilla, the oldest daughter, married Thomas Alford, of Center Lisle, and about 1830 removed with him to central Ohio. They finally settled in Alvada, Seneca County, and bought a fine farm, which is still in the hands of their lineal descendants. Several children were born to them, four of whom are still living, viz., William C., Mary, Hannah, and Allen. The three first named reside at Alvada. Allen is a resident of California.

Mrs. Aurilla Alford was, I judge, a superior woman, full of vivacity and courage and a natural leader in the quiet community in which her mature years were spent. Her children seem to have inherited, in good degree, her charac-

teristics. Though counted old, as years go, they bear their burdens lightly and display unusual energy and spirit in their every-day life.

William C., the oldest son of Aurilla, still holds and manages a large farm and finds time and strength every year for a month's camping and hunting in the forests of Michigan or Wisconsin. Though numbering four-score years, he is always the recognized leader of his camp. He has four children, all happily settled in life. One of his sons is college-bred and is now in successful practice as a lawyer in Duluth, Minnesota. (E. F. Alford.)

Mary, second daughter of Darius, married David Stephens, of Broome County, New York, and left two children, David, Jr., and Aurilla (Mrs. Bennett, both of whom reside at Harpersville, New York.

Vashti, third daughter of Darius, married, in 1819, Charles Brookins, of Center Lisle, and bore to him eight children, viz.:

George W.

Mary A.

Sarah.

Susan.

Janette.

Albert B., M. D.

Charles F.

Frederick O.

The four elder children reside in Richford, New York. Janette became, by her first marriage, Mrs. Rood, and has one son, Dr. George Rood, Etna, New York. By her second marriage she became Mrs. Elliott, and resides at Mentor, Minnesota. Albert B. is a physician, and resides in Florida

for the winters, his home being at Burton, in that State. During the rest of the year he resides at Bluefield, West Virginia. Charles F. is a resident of Greenwich, Ohio. He is a bright, intelligent man, but within the last few years he has lost his eyesight, and is thus withdrawn from active life to some extent. Frederick O. was killed in the Civil War, at Red River, Louisiana.

Azariah (3d), 1807, remained in Center Lisle all his life, and left two children, Frederick and Frances (Mrs. Pulver). Both reside at Tunnel, Broome County, New York.

Lambert, 1808, left two sons, Porter and Darius, who occupy the original home of their grandfather, at Center Lisle.

Albert, 1810, resided at the same place and his widow is still living there. He left two sons, viz., Dr. George, who is practicing medicine in Elmira, New York, and Cyrus A., who lives at Jamestown, New York.

Catharine married a Baptist minister.

Frederick, youngest son of Darius, 1770, lived at Cape Vincent, New York, and died there in 1862. His wife's name was Sarah Bennett. He left no children.

At least six of the descendants of Darius were engaged in the Civil War. There are three physicians and one lawyer in his line.

## SECTION VI.

### DESCENDANTS OF LEMUEL, 1731, IN THE SIXTH AND LATER GENERATIONS.

a. Of the family of Lemuel, 1731, and of his four sons, Lemuel, Jr., Gideon, John, and William, I have given as full a record as I have been able to obtain. I take up here the sixth and later generations, beginning with the line of Lemuel, Jr. (1761). I will repeat here the list of his children:

Charlotte, July 10, 1785.  
John Jamison, March 14, 1787.  
Lemuel (3d), June 27, 1789.  
Clarissa, December 15, 1790.  
Harriet, January 5, 1793.  
Polly, March 3, 1794.  
Burr, February 5, 1797.  
Birdseye (E. B.), June 16, 1799.  
Lydia, May 25, 1801.

Charlotte, the oldest child, grew up in Kent, and was married there to Lewis Mills, by whom she had two children, viz., Lewis M. and Charlotte. Lewis M. married Anna Smith, and had two children, viz., Charles and Louisa. Charlotte married James M. Pratt, of Kent, and had four children, viz., Charlotte (Mrs. John D. Pratt), Mary (Mrs. Seth. Hopson), Jane (Mrs. Sheldon Wheaton), Peter M., who married Julia Stowe, and Sophia (Mrs. Walter Camp). All were born and reared in Kent and most of them still reside there.

The descendants of John and William have been given on a preceding page, out of their true order.

John J. was brought up in Kent. He married Beulah Caldwell, of Canaan. He learned the carpenter's trade and was all his life recognized as a first-class workman. In the autumn of 1827 he left the old home for the Western Reserve, or New Connecticut, in northern Ohio, on the shore of Lake Erie. He came through with his own team. By the time he reached western New York the weather had become so bad that he stopped over for a few weeks at Eden with his great-uncle, Gideon, who was living there. Starting forward again, toward the end of December, he drove up the beach of Lake Erie, the only road in those days, to Painesville, which he reached about January 1, 1828. He bought a

house and lot in the village forthwith, and went diligently to work at his trade, for which there was an urgent demand at the time. His workmanship was so good that he was kept steadily and profitably employed, and in the course of a few years he got ahead enough, financially, to pay for a good farm three or four miles south of the village, and on this farm he spent the remainder of his days, dying there in 1870. His children, except the two younger ones, were born in Connecticut. Their names are:

Wayne, April 12, 1816.

Irwin, January 6, 1819-February, 1888.

Fréderick, May 12, 1822.

Charlotte, November 29, 1824.

Milo, 1828-1834.

Mary, September 17, 1830.

Wayne, the oldest son, was eleven years old when he was brought to Ohio. Many of the incidents of the long journey remain to this day firmly fixed in his memory. He grew up in Painesville on his father's farm, but having a natural taste for mechanical work, he became a good carpenter and learned the blacksmith's trade, as well. He worked at this last-named trade for a dozen years and accumulated enough to buy for himself a farm of one hundred and thirty acres in Perry Township, in the Valley of Grand River, six miles south of Painesville. He built his own house and farm buildings, and here he is passing a serene old age, enjoying the esteem and good will of all who know him. About 1840 he married Alvira Wright, who bore him one son, William Alcott, who now resides in Delmage, Lake County, South Dakota. William A. is married to Doretta Kretch, who has borne him three children.

Wayne's first wife, Alvira, died soon after the birth of William, and in 1846 he married Nancy M. Ryder, by whom he has two sons and one daughter, viz., Horace Elwood (1847), Miriam (1850), John J. (1858). Mrs. Orton is still living, as are also the children of this marriage.

Horace married Georgia, daughter of Judson B. Whipple, who bore him one son, William Judson. He removed to Virginia a number of years since, and resides at Reams Station, Dinwiddie County. Here his wife died, and he has since married Minnie Perkins, of Virginia, by whom he has two daughters.

Miriam E. married Judson B. Whipple, of LeRoy, a town adjoining Perry, and has one son and two daughters.

John J. was brought up on his father's farm, and expected to remain on it and take care of his aged parents, but being incapacitated, for a time, for farm work by a temporary lameness, he fitted himself for teaching, and was thus occupied for a few years. But presently he felt drawn to the study of medicine. He pursued his professional studies in the medical department of Western Reserve University, Cleveland, and is now established in successful practice in Randolph, Portage County, Ohio. He married, several years since, Rose Glossner, of Canton, Ohio.

Irwin Orton (1819-1888), passed his life as a farmer in Perry Township. He lived unmarried, and his farm fell to his brothers and sisters, in whose hands it still remains.

Frederick (1822), third son of John J., lives in Vinton, Benton County, Iowa, where he has accumulated considerable property, sufficient, at least, to insure his independence in his old age.

Mary, the youngest of John J.'s family, married Joel Crofoot, of Perry, and has one son, John M., born December 1, 1853.

Returning now to the family of Lemuel, Jr., we find next in order the name of Lemuel 3d, who was born June 7, 1789. He left Connecticut in early life and the family lost all track of him from the date of his departure.

Clarissa (1790) was twice married. The name of her first husband was James Judd, who came with his father-in-law to Delaware County, Ohio, where he died soon afterwards. She married a second husband, — Cowgill, of the same neighborhood.

Harriet, born 1793, married Alba Peet, of Kent, Connecticut, and emigrated with her father to Delaware County, Ohio. She left two children, William and Orpha. Orpha married — Cronkhelton, and her daughter, Mrs. Dr. Welsh is now living in Delaware, Ohio.

Polly (1794) came with her father to Ohio and was married there, becoming Mrs. Gale. She died August 4, 1847.

Burr (1798) remained behind, in Kent, when the rest of the family emigrated to Ohio. He married Ruby Church (1792-1884), and had six children, viz., Phoebe, Lucy, John, Charles, Charlotte, Lewis. Phoebe (1818-1879) married Homer Edwards, of Kent, and left four sons and one daughter. Lucy married Isaac Wedge (1820-1877). She is still living, with a good measure of health and vigor, at Cornwall Bridge, Connecticut. She had five children, viz., Anna, 1849 (Mrs. Merrit Slade, Cornwall Bridge, Connecticut); Flora L., 1846, Cornwall Bridge; Mark, married Linnie Rupert, and had one daughter; Alice, 1852-1870; Arthur E., who married Grace P. Logan.

Miss Flora L. Wedge is an esteemed correspondent of mine, to whom I owe the entire list of Burr Orton's descendants. Mark and Arthur Wedge reside in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

John, oldest son of Burr, married Mary Bassett, and had two sons and four daughters, viz., John C., Abby (Mrs. Linus Wing), Helen (Mrs. Cook Darling), Harriet (Mrs. Mott Darling), Andrew, and Clarissa (Mrs. George Durfee).

John C. married Anna Birch, and has four sons and two daughters, viz., Wildman, Inez, Charles, John, Edith, Frank.

Charles, second son of Burr, married Jane Gregory, and had eight children, viz., Elizabeth (Mrs. Luther Bennett); Polly (Mrs. Samuel Luke, afterwards Mrs. Henry Kelly); Helen (Mrs. Frederick Gibson); Henry (married Helen Browning, and had two daughters); Amasa (married first, Cornelia Jones; second, Madeline Huffman); Ida (Mrs. John Cramer); Mary (Mrs. Charles Walker); Charlotte (Mrs. James Wedge).

Lewis, youngest son of Burr Orton, married Sarah Jane Norton, and has two sons, viz., Horace and Darius. Horace married Anna Washburn, and has four children, viz., Sarah E., George L., Minnie S., and Herbert W.

## SECTION VII.

### DESCENDANTS OF LIEUTENANT JOHN (1744-1785) IN THE SIXTH AND LATER GENERATIONS.

As will be seen by reference to preceding pages, Lieutenant John left two sons, Joseph and Luther. Of the latter, I have recently found a trace, which I have already incorporated. Joseph left three sons, viz., Milton Pardee, Chauncey, and Alanson; but of the last two, I have no further data, though I have found reason to believe that Alanson married and removed to Wisconsin.

Milton P. Orton, as previously noted, grew up in Sharon, Connecticut. He was a bright and handsome lad

and early attracted the attention of General John Sedgwick, of the same town, who encouraged him to seek a collegiate education. The lad and his parents both responded to the suggestion. He was fitted for Yale in the neighboring schools and entered on his college course in 1820, graduating in 1824. As was often the case with the college graduates of those days as well as of these, Milton Orton was obliged to teach for a time to earn means for carrying his studies further. He seems to have commanded the confidence and good will of the Yale faculty; for when an application presently came to this body for a competent scholar to take charge of an academy in Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, he was selected for this post. He taught here with success for three years and then entered on the study of medicine in the office of a well-known physician of that town. He returned to New Haven to complete his medical studies and took his medical degree there in due time. Returning to Wilkesbarre, he took up the practice of his profession, and soon afterwards married Maria Lindsley Ford, of Lawrenceville, who belonged to one of the oldest and most prominent families of that region. Mrs. Orton having large landed interests near Lawrenceville, Pennsylvania, Dr. Orton presently took up his residence in the beautiful valley of the Tioga, at this point, and here he spent most of the remainder of his life. In the War of the Rebellion, Dr. Orton was early appointed a regimental surgeon, and was stationed, for a time, at Hatteras Inlet, on the North Carolina coast. His constitution was not adequate to the strain imposed and he died there after a brief illness, in 1864. He was a leader in the community in every respect, adding to his professional duties, at times, those of instructor of Latin and Greek at home, and thus giving a higher tone to the young people that were growing up around him.

To Dr. Orton and his wife, children were born as follows:

James Ford, 1832.  
Maria Lindsley, 1835.  
Stella S., 1837.  
Charles Ford, 1839.  
Benjamin Ford, 1843-1895.  
Ellen B., 1848.

James F. Orton is a resident of Philadelphia, where he has resided for many years, engaged in insurance agencies. He has been twice married, but has no children living. He is a man of wide range of reading and has a tenacious memory, so that he is able to apply to everything that arises some apt sentiment in poetry or in prose, and more likely in the former.

Maria L. is the accomplished wife of Colonel E. F. Beaumont of the United States Army. Colonel Beaumont is now on the retired list and resides in Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Beaumont is so loyal to her honored father's memory that she extends her interest to the entire Orton line.

Stella S. married, in her early life, Mr. J. S. Rusling, who has been for forty years a prominent figure in many large business transactions in Washington, New York, and Philadelphia. Mr. Rusling has a vein of mechanical ingenuity, which has served him in good stead in a number of inventions of considerable merit. He now occupies the old family home in Lawrenceville. Mr. and Mrs. Rusling have six children, four sons and two daughters. The sons are young men of unusual energy and sagacity in business. Charles S., the oldest, completed a college course in Rutgers College, New Brunswick, New Jersey, graduating there in 1882. Ford, the second son, is a manager of electric street car lines, with a high reputation for skill and efficiency. He is now located in Rochester, New York. The younger sons

are also connected with the same branch of business. Of the two daughters, the older, Mrs. Brundage, resides in Wilkes-barre. The younger, Stella, is still at home at Lawrenceville.

Charles F., the second son and fourth child of Dr. M. P. Orton, resides in Duluth, Minnesota, where he is engaged in the lumber trade. Of his two children, one is a son, viz., Charles, Jr.

Benjamin F. was a man of unusually attractive character. His social gifts and his genial nature made him a favorite in every circle which he entered. He was happily married, his wife being a daughter of General Adair Pleasants, of Rock Island, Illinois, and life seemed full of promise to him, when, almost without warning, he was struck down with Bright's disease, in the autumn of 1895. He passed away after a brief illness, leaving one child, a daughter, Ellen Adair. General Pleasants traces his family to some of the best blood of Virginia.

Ellen B., youngest member of Dr. Orton's household, was married twenty-five years ago to the late James H. Sherrerd, a representative of one of the old families of Philadelphia. Mrs. Sherrerd has a delightful home at Germantown. The family consists of three children, one son and two daughters. The son has already entered on an independent business career. To the genealogical interest of Sara, the older daughter, I am under great obligations for valuable facts pertaining to the Orton family.

Luther, 1774, settled in Vermont. The Christian name of his wife was Naomi. They had at least one son, Orrin, who married Margaret Fuller and removed to Orleans County, New York. He had four children, viz., Alphonso, Delinda (Mrs. Kingman), Delphina (Mrs. Birch), and James Volney, who died in 1895, in Moline, Michigan.

## CHAPTER VI.

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### THE REVOLUTIONARY RECORDS OF THE ORTONS.

In the preceding pages I have given account of all the military service in the Revolutionary War that I have found duly accredited to various members of the Orton family. I have also indicated certain claims of service rendered, for which documentary proof has not been found, but which can still be accepted, at least by the family, with full confidence, because of the character of the persons through whom the several traditions come.

For convenience, I will gather up the facts above given and will restate them here in compact and consecutive order.

1. Of the descendants of Thomas of Farmington we have two lines, one, viz., through Thomas of Tyringham (1709) and one through John of Tyringham (1717).

In the first line, Thomas 3d (1709) gives us two soldiers, duly accredited in the records of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts, viz., David and Roger. Roger was a non-commissioned officer, with the rank of corporal. There was but one other Orton in this family that could have taken part in the war, and he was more than forty years old when the struggle began.

The second family (John, 1717) gives us one duly accredited soldier, viz., John, 1742. John Orton's name is

found in the records (pay-rolls) of the Adjutant General of Vermont. I have put this statement stronger than the facts warrant. No record of residence or age occurs in the Vermont pay-rolls, above alluded to, but as we know of two John Ortons in residence in that State at the date of the war, one of whom, John 1717, was too old for service, and the other, John 1742, of suitable age, I have inferred, with considerable confidence, that the latter is the person named in the record. He served seven months and twenty-nine days, from May 4, 1780.

Judge H. S. Orton, of Wisconsin, declares that his grandfather, Rev. Ichabod Orton, was a chaplain in the army. Another tradition, that is less direct and less authoritative, makes Thomas, Gideon, and Oliver, other sons of John, 1717, Revolutionary soldiers. I credit this report to this extent, that they were very likely volunteers, enlisted for a short term of service in the capture of Burgoyne, at Saratoga. The able-bodied young men of western New England were mainly present on this occasion.

2. Of the descendants of John of Woodbury, 1692, none are reported as having taken part in the war. There were, in fact, but two living at the time, viz., John (2d), 1729, who, consequently, was very near the limit of exemption on account of his age, and Dr. Samuel, 1741. The latter was the principal and perhaps the only physician of his town, Woodbury, Connecticut, at the time, and it is easy to see why he was held at home.

3. Of the descendants of Samuel of Litchfield (1694), a larger number were of suitable age for military service, viz., between sixteen and fifty. There were eight in the fifth generation from Thomas of Windsor that were at least sixteen years old, and seven of them were in the army. Of the five sons of Samuel, 1724, Gideon, 1754, and Samuel, 1759, were

the only ones old enough for service. Both were in the army in the summer of 1777, under Captain Amos Barns, in the defense of the Hudson Valley. Gideon died in 1778, but Samuel was again in service in 1778, under Captain Joel Gillett, in the same field.

Of the five sons of Hezekiah living at the time of the war, four were of suitable age for military service. Three of them were in the army and all of them long enough to make them entitled to pensions from Congress. Eliada, 1748, received a pension by the Act of 1818. The name of Azariah, 1757, appears in the Congressional List of Pensioners of 1834-5, Vol. II., page 365. He served with the Connecticut Continental troops. Darius (1760) served in the years 1776-1777-1778 and 1780. His name is also to be found in the Congressional List of 1834-5.

Of the three sons of Azariah, 1727, the oldest, Azariah 2d, was born in 1761. He was in the army to which Burgoyne surrendered in 1777. His name is found in the records of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts.

Of the four sons of Lemuel, 1731, but one, Lemuel, Jr., 1761, was old enough to enter the army. He enlisted in 1778, when seventeen years old, and fought through the war. He received a pension by the Act of 1818.

The list of duly accredited Revolutionary soldiers in the family is, therefore, as follows:

NAME.	AUTHORITY.
David, 1737.	Adjutant General of Massachusetts.
Roger, 1740.	Adjutant General of Massachusetts.
John, 1742 (?).	Adjutant General of Vermont.
Gideon, 1754.	Adjutant General of Connecticut.
Samuel, 1759.	Adjutant General of Connecticut.
Eliada, 1748.	Adjutant General of Connecticut.

NAME.	AUTHORITY.
Azariah, 1757.	Congressional List of 1834-5.
Darius, 1760.	Adjutant General of Connecticut.
Azariah, 1761.	Adjutant General of Massachusetts.
Lemuel, 1761.	Adjutant General of Connecticut.

Tradition adds the names of Thomas, 1746; Gideon, 1759; Oliver, 1764, and Rev. Ichabod, 1754.

It seems probable to me, further, that John, 1744-1785, who held the rank of lieutenant, as is shown by the inscription on his tombstone, attained his title in the Revolutionary War, but for this supposition I have not been able to find documentary support.

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